

Algerians vote on new constitution

ALGIERS (R) — Algerians began voting Wednesday on a new constitution which buries a quarter-century of rigid one-party socialism and prepares for a new era of democracy.

"Political parties are going to be founded, men and women are going to express different ideas," the official news agency APS said in a commentary explaining why Algerians should vote.

"Algeria is moving. Algeria is evolving... people are speaking their minds in total liberty and that means healthy conflicts, intellectual shocks and unfortunate excesses. It's a revolution," said another APS commentary.

Residents in remote areas went to the polls Wednesday. Voting in the main towns and cities begins Thursday and the result, widely expected to be a resounding yes, will probably be out by Friday morning.

The constitution, released in draft Feb. 4, allows independent political associations, removes all references to socialism and relegates the dominant role of the

ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) to a footnote in history. After independence from France in 1962 the FLN monopolised power, used the country's oil wealth to expand the public sector and virtually wiped out the private sector it inherited.

President Chadli Benjedid began cautious economic reforms in the mid-1980s in response to falling oil revenues. The reforms accelerated and spread to politics after riots in Algiers and other cities in October last year.

The FLN and state institutions were the main targets for the thousands of young Algerians who rampaged through the streets for almost a week. The government said 169 people were killed.

At an FLN congress in late November Benjedid pushed through a first stage of reforms, transforming the party into a broad front grouping different opinions, separating the FLN from the state and allowing independent candidates to stand in



Chadli Benjedid

elections. The constitution takes the process a stage further.

It says "The right to create associations of a political nature is recognised" as long as they are not against the interests of the state. The previous constitution said all political associations must be linked to the FLN.

Although Algerian officials hesitate to promise a multi-party system in the immediate future, the new constitution leaves space for one.

EC welcomes ACC, Arab Maghreb Union

AMMAN (J.T.) — The European Community (EC) has welcomed the recent establishment of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) grouping Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen and the Arab Maghreb Union of Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya and Mauritania.

"The commission stresses that the community, which was born from the political will of its members to escape the deep divisions which had marked their history, justifies that economic cooperation and integration on a regional basis constitutes important factors for peace, stability and reinforcement of democracy and prosperity," said other EC statement, which was released by the EC delegate in Amman.

This is why the commission is pleased by the Arab leaders to form, after the creation in 1981 of the Gulf Cooperation Council, two new economic regional entities in the Maghreb and the Mashreq," it said.

Matutes indicated in his de-

claration in the scope of the EC-Tunisia Cooperation Council that the community, "naturally, has always offered its support to the developing countries which started a regional integration process."

He added that in the present cases the commission was ready to examine the requests which may be presented by the concerned countries.

Matutes also said that "now that the community is achieving the establishment of the 'Big Market' — must, more than ever, be available as a partner to the developing countries."

He also added that the community was not an "example" of regional integration but is simply an accumulated experience all the way since 1950.

The ACC was announced in Baghdad Thursday at a meeting of the leaders of Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen as a predominantly economic alliance among the four. The Arab Maghreb Union was set up Friday at a meeting in Marrakesh.



The emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah (second from right), meets with four of the Lebanese religious leaders attending a meeting

with a six-member Arab League mediation panel in Kuwait

Arab panel pursues compromise formula for Lebanese peace

KUWAIT (Agencies) — An Arab League committee sought a way out of Lebanon's political crisis Wednesday by linking new presidential elections with political reform demanded by the Muslim majority.

Lebanese sources quoted by Reuters said the committee discussed how to end political chaos in Lebanon and elect a new president after bearing the separate views of six religious leaders Tuesday.

Torn by civil war for nearly 14 years, Lebanon has no president, two rival governments and a paralysed parliament since former President Amin Gemayel's term ended last September.

The committee, chaired by Kuwait and including the foreign ministers of Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Sudan and Tunisia, held a first round of talks with Lebanon's two rival prime ministers and the parliamentary speaker last month in Tunis.

Kuwait officials said it was to convene a joint session with lead-

ers representing the Maronite, Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Sunni and Shi'ite Muslim, and Druze religious groups later Wednesday.

The sources told Reuters the committee was working on a plan under which Lebanese factions would first agree on the broad outlines of reform to the country's Christian-dominated sectarian political system.

Parliament would then meet to elect a speaker and subsequently adopt the reforms and elect a new president at the same session.

The president would appoint a prime minister in accordance with the constitution and his government would press for the withdrawal of Syrian and Israeli troops, the sources said.

The committee chairman, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al

Sabah, Kuwait's foreign minister, has warned that Lebanon may not have another chance to avert complete disintegration.

The sources said the real test for the committee would come next month when it is due to meet the chiefs of Lebanon's various political factions and militias, whose willingness to compromise was crucial.

The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) announced the mediators would meet with "two key Lebanese political figures" were March 17-18 for the third stage of their effort to end the civil war.

The agency said it did not know who the two leaders would be. But it added that the March meeting will be the start of the mediators' contacts with "effective figures on the Lebanese arena."

Sheikh Sabah said the third round of discussions would be with the leaders of the rival Lebanese militias.

The date for the next stage was set as the panel was appraising the outcome of its separate meetings with the clerics.

Quoting unidentified panel sources, KUNA said the meetings covered "all questions pertaining to the Lebanese crisis, including the election of a president, elimination of sectarianism and fostering Lebanon's unity, independence and sovereignty."

Aoun bans ships

In Beirut, Lebanon's army chief, clamping down on hardline militants, has banned cargo ships from a militia-run docks, posing a crucial challenge to his east Beirut rivals.

Official sources said Wednesday that Major-General Michel Aoun, whose troops battled Lebanese Forces (LF) militiamen in Beirut streets last week, aimed to deprive the LF of \$200,000 a month in fees from part of Beirut port.

Political sources said the docking ban could threaten a truce between the two sides reached Sunday with Maronite church mediation after 59 people were killed.

"The LF is in a tight spot," a source said. "If it gives up the Fifth Basin it will lose a lot of money. But if it holds on to it could lead to a confrontation with Aoun."

Aoun, who also heads an interim military government vying for power with a civil administration, Tuesday urged Christians to stop paying taxes to the LF.

Red Cross resumes airlift to Sudan, expands programme

NAIROBI (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) resumed its airlift of food and medicine to war-torn southern Sudan Wednesday and prepared to expand its relief programme.

Flights to the ICRC's four project centres in southern Sudan resumed after an eight-day break, spokeswoman Veronique Zbinden said.

Red Cross flights to the government-held towns of Wau and Aweil and the rebel-controlled settlements of Akon and

Yirol were suspended Feb. 14 after the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) demanded more precise details about the ICRC's flight programme.

Zbinden said the Swiss-based humanitarian organisation received permission to resume its flights Tuesday.

It had also received the green light from Khartoum and the SPLA to expand its three-month-old relief operation to four new centres in southern

Sudan, Zbinden added.

Beginning Tuesday the ICRC will extend its airlift to the government-controlled towns of Juba and Malakal on the River Nile and the rebel-held settlements of Abwong and Kongor to the east of the river.

SPLA rebels said Tuesday they had begun shelling Juba and warned civilians to rally behind rebel forces.

But diplomatic sources in Nairobi said the fighting in Juba Monday resulted from an

apparent military by some Sudanese soldiers and the city was now quiet.

The ICRC flies into rebel-held settlements in southern Sudan from Entebbe international airport in Uganda and Lokochol airport in north-western Kenya. It serves government-held towns separately with planes based in the Sudanese capital Khartoum.

Zbinden said the ICRC had flown an additional C-130 Hercules into Entebbe, bringing to nine the number of planes used

on the southern Sudan airlift. The SPLA has been fighting since 1983 against what they see as the domination of southern Sudan by the north.

Government control in the region has been reduced to a few isolated towns, many of which are overflowing with refugees from the fighting.

Severe drought has also forced an estimated two million southerners to flee to towns in northern Sudan and refugee camps in Ethiopia.

Serious Soviet drive

(Continued from page 1)

U.S.-Soviet supervision, circumventing an international conference.

He also dismissed the American interpretation that U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 implies partial Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and that the Zionist state could retain some of the lands. "It has been accepted by the Soviet Union and the majority of nations that the resolution means (Israel's) withdrawal from all the occupied territories, because it is accepted by the U.N. that territories cannot be taken by force," Zinchuk said.

The ambassador noted that there was basic agreement between Moscow and the European governments on the principle of an international conference and said consultations were continuing between the Soviet Union and European states on the Middle East. He revealed that the Spanish foreign minister, the current head of the European Community Council of Ministers, was scheduled to visit Moscow in the first week of March for talks with Shevardnadze. Furthermore, he noted, Shevardnadze is scheduled to meet with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in Vienna March 6.

The Middle East is also expected to be discussed as a "high priority issue" in talks Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev would have in Britain, France and West Germany in the next few months.

The ambassador confirmed that the Soviet Union was trying to mediate the rift between the Syrian and PLO leaderships and Shevardnadze, who began his Mideast visit in Damascus Feb. 17, discussed the issue with Syrian leaders. He said a fence-

mending visit to Damascus by Arafat was possible, but he did not know when.

The ambassador expressed hope that the next regular Arab summit would be convened soon "and at that summit a resolution would be adopted stating very clearly that all the Arab states are in support of the international conference and, more importantly, that it should be convened urgently because the situation requires it."

The ambassador said the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan which was completed last week bode well for prospects for resumption of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia. "Our presence there (in Afghanistan) was an obstacle to the establishment or reestablishment of diplomatic relations. Now we are out of Afghanistan and King Fahd has welcomed it. So we hope we will establish ties with Bahrain and Saudi Arabia."

But, he stressed, further developments within Afghanistan would not have any bearing on Soviet-Saudi relations since "we have left it to the Afghan people to decide their future for themselves."

The quest for permanent peace between Iran and Iraq after eight years of war is expected to figure high in Shevardnadze's talks this week in Baghdad and Tehran. Asked whether the Soviet Union was involved in a reported proposal to set up an international panel to dredge the Shatt Al Arab waterway as a catalyst to push the stalled negotiations under U.N. auspices, Zinchuk said: "We would support any idea which would help to bridge the differences between them, including the creation of a neutral body," he did not elaborate.

5 Israelis held for painting slogans

TEL AVIV (AP) — Police detained Tuesday five Israelis from a southern communal farm on suspicion of painting swastikas and slogans in support of the Palestinian uprising, a spokesman said.

"They wrote 'long live an independent Palestine' and painted Nazi swastikas on the walls," in Beersheba, the largest city in the southern Negev desert, police spokesman Shlomo Ben-Chaim said.

"We had such slogans before, but this is the first time that Jews have been detained for it," Ben-Chaim added. "They are being interrogated now and will stay in detention until their trial."

He said the detainees were members of the Kramim kibbutz, or communal farm, about 15 kilometres north of Beersheba, but declined to give further details.

The Israeli news agency Itim said all five detainees were in their 20s and have served in the Israeli army.

It said they were detained after a local resident saw them spray-painting slogans in support of the Palestinian uprising early Tuesday. The resident wrote down the number of their vehicle, which was later traced to Kramim.

Itim said other slogans painted by the group expressed support for Israelis who refuse to serve in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Iran frees another 75 Iraqi prisoners

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran Wednesday sent home 75 disabled Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs), the second batch of a total of 260 due to be freed this week.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said six other prisoners released Wednesday asked for asylum and stayed in Iran.

Iran said it was freeing the 260 prisoners, among thousands captured by both sides during their eight-year war, to mark the 10th anniversary of the revolution this month.

A spokesman in Baghdad for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which is supervising the repatriation, said

80 prisoners arrived in Iraq Tuesday.

The rest of the prisoners are to be released Thursday.

A United Nations-sponsored ceasefire halted the Gulf war Aug. 20. But peace negotiations have stalled and a previous agreement to exchange prisoners of war in November collapsed over mutual recriminations of bad faith, including the numbers requesting asylum on both sides.

The Red Cross has registered 50,182 prisoners held by Iran and 19,235 Iranians in Iraqi hands. But U.N. and other officials estimate the total number of prisoners at 100,000.

U.N. protests Israeli attack on UNIFIL

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — U.N. officials have strongly protested to Israel about a weekend attack in South Lebanon that seriously injured two U.N. peacekeepers, officials said Tuesday.

Assailants fired "anti-personnel tank rounds containing flechettes, nail-shaped arrows contained in a shell intended to cause maximum injuries to troops in the open" at a U.N. patrol Saturday night, said U.N. spokesman Francisco Guiliani.

Two Norwegian peacekeepers suffered serious injuries but a Swedish soldier in the area was not hurt, he said.

An investigation Sunday indicated that the tank rounds were fired from a joint Israeli army-South Lebanon Army (SLA)

position near the village of Aicheh, west of the Litani River, said Guiliani.

"The senior Israeli (military) representative has indicated to the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) that the Israeli defence forces are carrying out a serious investigation," he said.

Under-secretary-General Mark Goulding, the top U.N. peacekeeping official, protested the attack Monday in a telephone call to Israel's charge d'affaires, Guiliani said.

An unknown number of Israeli officers and troops also operate in southern Lebanon in the same area that the U.N. peacekeepers have been ordered to patrol.

The U.N. peacekeepers are lightly armed, and may only fire in self-defence.

DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Korean
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programme
16:15 Local programme
17:30 Programme on Jordan
18:00 News for the Day
18:20 Local programme
18:50 "Give me a break"
19:15 Health programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
21:30 Local series
21:30 Programme on Islamic art
22:30 Arabic film
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Film (cont.)

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 La Baby Sitter
18:30 A variety programme
19:00 News in French
19:15 La Vie En France
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Bill Cosby Show
21:10 Thirty Something
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film:

PRAYER TIMES

06:40 Fajr
06:57 (Sunrise) Duha
11:49 Dhuhur
15:01 'Asr
17:31 Maghreb
18:49 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetlits

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

AMMAN

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 810740
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrasanta Church Tel. 623366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628541
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assiout International Church Tel. 685336
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811265
Rainbow Congregation Tel. 822405
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821204

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Ibrahim Outeh 675480
Dr. Mustafa Al Qusbi 772528
Dr. Mohammed Al Ajam 894184
Dr. Bahjat Badr 849564
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 677055
Nairoba pharmacy 626762
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 649495
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:

Dr. Ahmad Bishawi (—) Al Shams pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:

Dr. Saleh Al Khadr (—) Khalil pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 199
Rescue Police 792, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 62209093
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 643402
Traffic Police 6563091
Public Security Department 656000 / 665111
Hotel Complaints 605800

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Dr. Ibrahim Outeh 675480
Dr. Mustafa Al Qusbi 772528
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Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 677055
Nairoba pharmacy 626762
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 649495
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:

Dr. Ahmad Bishawi (—) Al Shams pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:

Dr. Saleh Al Khadr (—) Khalil pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 199
Rescue Police 792, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 62209093
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 643402
Traffic Police 6563091
Public Security Department 656000 / 665111
Hotel Complaints 605800

PRICE COMPLAINTS

Water and Sewerage 661176
Complaints 697467
Amman Municipality 767111
Complaints 661101
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 12
Overseas Calls 17

Central Amman Telephone

Reception 623101
Abdali Telephone Repair 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-52000
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-52000

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Centre 813813/2
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 64341/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malha, J. Amn 664164/6
Palestine, Shmeisani 664170/4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 848845
Al-Muasher Hospital 56727/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666171/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marka 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674153
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jls per kg.

Apple 300 / 300
Banana 300 / 300
Banana (Mukammal) 300 / 250
Beans 700 / 600
Broad beans 400 / 400
Cabbage 200 / 150
Carrots 250 / 200
Cauliflower 210 / 160
Cucumbers 580 / 500
Dates 600 / 500
Eggplant 300 / 250
Onion (local) 300 / 250
Onion (dry) 200 / 160
Lemon 220 / 160
Lettuce (per one) 150 / 100
Marrow (large) 400 / 300
Marrow (small) 640 / 500
Orange (summit) 320 / 260
Orange (local) 300 / 250
Onion (dry) 200 / 160
Onion (green) 240 / 200
Pepper (hot) 850 / 750
Pepper (sweet) 450 / 350
Potato 200 / 120
Spinach 110 / 80
Mandarin 470 / 400
Tomatoes 150 / 100

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (02)832005, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

09:10 Agaba (RJ)
09:10 Damascus (RJ)
09:15 Jeddah (RJ)
09:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:00 Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)
10:00 Calcutta (RJ)
10:15 Larnaca (RJ)
10:20 Athens (RJ)
10:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
10:30 London, Geneva (RJ)
10:30 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
10:30 Bangkok (RJ)
10:40 Tripoli (RJ)
10:45 Rome (RJ)
09:20 Baghdad (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

12:10 Kuwait (TU)
12:15 Baghdad (IA)
12:35 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:55 Agaba (RJ)
10:30 Tripoli (RJ)
10:45 Rome (RJ)
11:10 Athens (RJ)
12:10 Larnaca (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt, London (RJ)
19:30 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
20:10 Baghdad (RJ)
20:15 Vienna, Miami (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:30 Cairo (RJ)
20:30 Dubai, Muscat

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

ROYAL DECREE: A Royal Decree has been issued approving the new regulations on vehicle plates. The regulations provide for changing the numbers of vehicles so that they will consist of four digits and two letters. This will be also accompanied by giving plates distinguished colours. (Petra)

DUDIN RECEIVES CHINESE ENVOY: Labour Minister Marwan Dudin Wednesday received Chinese Ambassador in Amman Zhang Zhen at the conclusion of his tour of duty. (Petra)

KHASAWNEH MEETS ENVOYS: Information Minister Dr. Hani Khasawneh Wednesday received separately Japanese Ambassador in Amman Makoto Watanabe and Chinese Ambassador Zhang Zhen. (Petra)

COOPERATION WITH QATAR: Greater Amman Municipality Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh Wednesday discussed cooperation with Qatari Ambassador in Amman Mubarak Naser Al Kuwari. (Petra)

AMIN CHAIRS COUNCIL MEETINGS: Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin Wednesday chaired a meeting for the city's executive council to discuss projects that will be implemented in the Amman region during 1989. The meeting, which was attended by council members and provincial governors also discussed the past years' achievements and those included in the current five-year development plan. According to Amin a total of JD 2 million will be invested in industrial schemes in the Amman region during 1989. (Petra)

S. YEMENI MINISTER TO ARRIVE: South Yemen's Foreign Minister Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Dali is due here Saturday on a four-day visit to Jordan. Dali is expected to hold talks with Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and senior officials at the Foreign Ministry. (Petra)

SOVIET ANNIVERSARY MARKED: President of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society Bahjat Talhouni Wednesday attended a reception on the 71st anniversary of the founding of the Red Army and Red Navy. Members of the diplomatic corps and society members attended the reception. (Petra)

PEOPLE'S ARMY: A new batch of People's Army recruits Wednesday graduated in Deir Abu Sa'id. Speeches were delivered underlining the importance of military training. (Petra)

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE GROUP: University of Jordan President Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali Wednesday received the London Royal Shakespeare Group currently on a visit to Jordan. The group presented a performance of Romeo and Juliet at the university Wednesday. (J.T.)

NHF BEGINS AEROBICS COURSE: The Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Wednesday opened a two-week aerobics training course for children. A total of 23 children are taking part in the course held in Aqaba. (Petra)

U.S. TAXPAYER ASSISTANCE TOUR: A representative of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will visit Amman again this year to give guidance and assistance to U.S. taxpayers in filing their 1988 tax returns. The IRS representative will be in Amman beginning Thursday, Feb. 23 through Thursday, March 2. (J.T.)

'LIFE ON A SWEDISH ICEBREAKER': The Swedish film institute and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs have released a film about the activities of a Swedish icebreaker and the environment surrounding it. The film "Life on a Swedish Icebreaker" is part of a multi-media package which also includes a photo exhibition, a radio programme. The package including the film will be presented at the Royal Cultural Centre on Feb. 25 at 7:00 p.m., and again at the French Cultural Centre from Feb. 28 through March 9. Both presentations will be held under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Majda Raud. (J.T.)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION: A mobile archaeological exhibition on Tel Abu Hamid agricultural settlement in the Jordan Valley, which dates back to the fourth millennium B.C., is being held at the University of Jordan. The nine-day exhibition, which was previously shown in Irbid and Amman, includes photographs, drawings and maps showing the way of life at the ancient site, as well as artefacts excavated by archaeologists from Yarmouk University's Institute of Anthropology and Archaeology, the Paris-based Arab National Centre for Scientific Research and the French Archaeological Institute in the Near East. (Petra)

DRUG TRAFFICKERS JAILED: The military court has sentenced Hani Mohammad Shamekh Al Shboul to eight years imprisonment and the payment of JD 800 for acquisition of hashish. The court also sentenced Faisal Mubarak Abu Zreiq to four years imprisonment and the payment of JD 400 on the same charge. The court sentenced Abdul Nasser Mohammad Adnan Agha to eight years imprisonment and the payment of JD 3,500 for possession of heroin. The military governor approved all sentences. (Petra)

TRAFFIC AWARENESS: Chairman of the National Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents Mohammad Al Dahbas Wednesday chaired a symposium attended by a number of experts on means to promote traffic awareness and reduce road accidents. (Petra)

SOUTH MAZAR PROJECTS: South Mazar District Governor Hayya Al Rawashdeh Wednesday said that the amount spent on development and service projects in South Mazar District in 1988 totalled JD 1,403,775. He added that a further JD 574,458 are being spent on educational projects. (Petra)

KOREAN ENVOY AT YARMOUK: South Korean Ambassador to Jordan Tae-Jin Park visited Yarmouk University Wednesday and met with its President Mohammad Hamdan and his aides to discuss teaching Arabic to Korean students in the university. The university's languages centre provides Arabic language programmes to non-Arabs of all nationalities. The ambassador who was accompanied by embassy officials toured the campus and inspected the library and other facilities. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * An art exhibition by Paul and Emanuel Guiragoussian at Abdul Hamid Stoman Foundation.
- * The Arab Contemporary Artists exhibition at Al Wasiti Gallery.
- * An exhibition of models of the Jordanian plastic art, in which 22 Jordanian artists are participating, at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- * An exhibition entitled "The Tuebingen Atlas of the Middle East" at the Department of Geography, the University of Jordan.
- * An exhibition of paintings of Jordan by Luz Marina Robertson at the Petra Bank Gallery.
- * An exhibition of Islamic art and calligraphy by Jordanian artist Mohammad Mubaidin at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- * An exhibition on Aila, an Islamic medieval city, port of Palestine and the storehouse of Hijaz on the China Sea, at the Yarmouk University.
- * An exhibition of Arabic books which includes 15,000 books on science, education and culture at the Karak Community College.
- * An art exhibition by Jordanian artist 'Adnan Yahya at Alia Art Gallery.
- * An exhibition of paintings by French artist Francoise Petrovitch at the French Cultural Centre.
- * An archaeological mobile exhibition on Tel Abu Hamid agricultural settlement at the University of Jordan.

FILMS

- * A feature film entitled "Kramer vs. Kramer" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.
- * An Italian film entitled "Fantozzi" at Haya Arts Centre — 7:30 p.m.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday sees off the 20th relief mission to Sudan (Petra photo)

UNESCO envoy voices concern over education in occupied lands

AMMAN (Petra) — A special envoy from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Director General Wednesday voiced the organisation's deep concern over the deterioration of the educational and cultural situation in the occupied Arab territories.

Father Edward Bone, who has spent three days in Jordan as part of his fact finding tour of the Middle East, said that at least 475,000 Arab students in the occupied lands are now being deprived of education.

"This is a very grave matter and requires a speedy solution since education is a basic and essential requirement for all human beings," Bone said.

Bone, who is due to go to Damascus and Cairo after his visit to Jordan, said that this was his second mission to the region entrusted by UNESCO to find out about the educational situation in the occupied regions.

Bone said he visited Jordan in 1987 to discuss about the universities in the occupied territories and their potential in providing high level education to the local population.

But his current tour is more extensive and his report to the UNESCO headquarters will cover the situation at various educational institutions in the Palestinian lands.

Bone said he acquired detailed information for his report from the education departments in Jordan and from the Education Department at the Palestine Liberation Organisation office and presidents of the universities, directors of schools and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) as well as educationalists and other concerned organisations.

Bone said that he plans to submit his report after concluding his tours in Damascus and Cairo.

On Tuesday, President of Al Quds Open University (QOU) Dr. Walid Kamhawi received Bone in his office and briefed him on the progress of QOU's academic programmes.

Jordan to get over \$900,000 U.N. aid to promote rural industries

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is to receive more than \$900,000 in technical aid from the United Nations over the coming three years to help it promote rural industries and improve its economic planning programmes, according to an agreement signed in Amman Wednesday.

Under the agreement, a project for developing small industries in the rural regions of the Kingdom undertaken by the Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB), is designed to create jobs in rural districts and stem the movement of people from those regions to urban areas of the country.

The project, which is to be financed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), is expected to cost \$409,424, according to the provisions of the agreement.

Safadi, Tunisian counterpart discuss cooperation

TUNIS (Petra) — Cooperation between Jordanian and Tunisian national news agencies was discussed at a meeting here Wednesday by Mr. Ali Safadi, director general of the Jordan News Agency, Petra, and his Tunisian counterpart Rida Al Hajari.

The two directors discussed cooperation in the exchange of news, documents, and other publications covering development projects in both countries.

Safadi and Hajari discussed the implementation of a bilateral agreement signed in 1984 in all its aspects.

Safadi attended meetings of the Arab Information Standing Committee which ended in Tunis Tuesday evening.

He presented a Jordanian working paper outlining the Kingdom's proposal for the creation of a pan-Arab television production company which would initiate programmes that would counter programmes and documentaries propagated against the Arab nation by hostile circles.

The Jordanian proposal outlines the prospect of making greater use of the Arab satellite to carry out this endeavour and to help promote cultural and informational cooperation among Arab countries.

The committee recommended that financial contributions be allocated to finance cultural and informational projects benefiting the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

The committee also called for more efficient utilisation of Arab-sat to promote exchanges of television programmes among Arab countries.

The committee recommended that Arab information ministers hold their coming meeting in August 1989.

The second project, expected to cost \$585,000, is designed to improve the efficiency of the Ministry of Planning's employees in conducting studies and making economic forecasts and working out sound economic plans for the Kingdom.

The New York-based United Nations Technical Assistance Programme is to supervise the implementation of the project in the coming three years.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Planning Taher Ka-

naan and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Representative in Jordan Ali Arifa in the presence of ministry and UNDP officials.

In the past year, UNDP signed four agreements with the Ministry of Planning, providing assistance to establish a laboratory for genetic research at the University of Jordan's faculty of medicine, technical assistance to help diversify and develop exports and help promote the Vocational Training Corporation's programmes.

Committee discusses adopted energy conference resolutions

AMMAN (Petra) — A follow up committee formed by the Arab Energy Conference held a meeting here Wednesday to discuss the implementation of resolutions adopted at a Baghdad meeting held last March.

The talks also focused on a committee meeting which is due to be held in Amman in 1992 and the subjects that will be discussed.

Questions such as the committee's budget for 1989 and activities during this year were also reviewed at the meeting.

Also discussed were challenges to the Arab World in terms of energy production, alternative

energy resources and the impact of energy on Arab economy.

Visiting Iraqi Minister of Petroleum Isam Jalabi who arrived here Tuesday attended the meeting in his capacity as the Arab energy conference chairman.

Attending the meeting, which was held at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, were Minister of Energy Hisham Al Khatib, Abdul Latif Al Hamad, board chairman of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, and Mr. Abdul Aziz Al Watari, secretary general of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC).

Regent reviews Jordan's relief operations

20th relief mission leaves for Sudan

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan Wednesday dispatched yet another mission to Sudan carrying medical equipment, medicine and other supplies for the Jordanian relief mission stationed in the Arab African country to provide assistance to the local population.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, saw off the mission, the 20th of its kind, which comprises 14 physicians and technicians who will relieve the 19th mission sent earlier to provide essential medical services.

According to Dr. Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, rapporteur of the Jordanian National Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People, parallel with the work of the medical missions, Jordan has dispatched a technical team to plan and carry out water and electricity projects at the city of Kass benefiting at least 12,000 citizens who had been deprived of these essential services before.

Abbadi, who was at the airport to see the mission off, said that the water project entails drilling 10 artesian wells, replacing old pipes with a new network of 40 kilometres in length, building eight water towers each with a 800-cubic-metre capacity and installing a water purification system.

As to the electricity project, it entails installing a power station with a total generating power of 800 kilowatt ampere, laying electric cables, fixing 325 power posts, supplying electric power to the water wells and distributing power supplies to various parts of the town. Abbadi said the projects are expected to be completed in six months time.

He said: "The Jordanian Hashemite Technical Mission comprises 16 engineers and technicians from the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, the Royal Engineering Corp., the Jordan Electricity Authority, the Water Authority of Jordan and the Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre."

This team is replaced by new technicians every two months, according to Abbadi.

He said the cost of supplying equipment and carrying out the

projects are covered by the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank but the designs, tender documents, the supervision and implementation of the projects were carried out by Jordan through the Royal Engineering Corp in conjunction with the Jordanian National Committee for Solidarity with Sudan.

On the eve of the mission's departure, Prince Hassan chaired a meeting at the Royal Court and heard a briefing on the Jordanian missions' operations in Sudan, especially on the power and water supply schemes in Kass.

Prince Hassan also heard a briefing on the medical missions and the different institutions which offered contributions towards this humanitarian task.

The meeting at the Royal Court was attended by the Ministry of Health's secretary general and officials from the ministries of Health, Public Works and Housing, the water and electricity authorities and the Royal Engineering Corp.

Present at the airport with Prince Hassan to see the mission off, was also Health Minister Zuhair Malhas and Sudan's Ambassador to Jordan, Mahjub Radwan.

Egypt's youth minister arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — An Egyptian delegation representing the Higher Council of Youth arrived here Wednesday on an official visit to Jordan at the invitation of Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat.

The delegation is led by Dr. Abdul Ahad Jamaluddin, minister of youth, who upon arrival paid tribute to the Jordanian-Egyptian cultural relations.

The four-member delegation, which was welcomed by Khleifat and Ministry of Youth officials,

CAEU secretary general leaves for Rabat talks

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Secretary General of the Amman-based Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), Mr. Hassan Ibrahim left for Rabat Wednesday to take part in the 43rd meeting of the Arab Economic and Social Council meeting due to open there Friday.

During his stay in the Moroccan capital Ibrahim is scheduled to meet with Arab ministers of economy attending the session to discuss the council's cooperation with their respective countries. According to a CAEU official here, Ibrahim plans to urge these countries to honour their financial commitments to the CAEU's annual budget.

In a pre-departure statement,

Ibrahim paid tribute to Jordan and Syria who, he said, were among the foremost Arab states that have already paid up their commitments and added that Iraq has made arrangements for transferring \$250,000 to the CAEU.

Jordan is represented at the Rabat meeting by a delegation to be headed by Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbara. It is also taking part in preparations for the coming meeting through a technical committee which opened meetings Wednesday. Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary General Mohammad Saqqaf and a team of Jordanian officials are representing Jordan in the preparatory committee meetings.

Jordanian-Syrian maritime firm makes less profit in '88

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The joint Jordanian-Syrian Maritime Company last year realised a profit of 20 million Syrian pounds down from 22 million for operations carried out by its two cargo vessels in the previous year, according to Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan.

The minister, who made the statement upon returning home from meetings in Damascus where operations by the joint land transport and maritime companies general assemblies were discussed, said that the Jordanian and Syrian sides have decided to distribute the 1987 profits equally between the two countries.

The two sides discussed purchasing a third cargo vessel to be

put in service alongside Yarmouk and Barada, in cooperation with the Arab United Insurance Company, Haj Hassan noted.

He said that the land transport company general assembly reviewed the company's operations in the past year and charted programmes for 1989, in implementation of directives by the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee.

Haj Hassan held side talks with Syrian Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zou'bi and Syrian Minister of Transport Youssef Ahmad designed to promote transport between the two countries.

At the conclusion of the meetings in Damascus, Haj Hassan and Ahmad signed the minutes of the two assemblies meetings and

visited a service station near Aleppo, which provides maintenance work for railway locomotives in Syria.

In a separate development Jordan's Ambassador to Syria Nayef Al Hadid met in Damascus Wednesday with Syrian Minister of Higher Education Kamel Sharaf to discuss cooperation in higher education.

The ambassador conveyed to Sharaf an invitation from Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad to visit Jordan.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Sharaf will be making the visit in the first half of the coming month at the head of an official delegation of the Syrian Ministry of Higher Education and Syrian universities.

Portraying a poetic country

By Nelly Lama
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Petra Bank is the venue of an art exhibition by the Colombian-born artist Luz Marina Robertson.

In the past, Luz Marina had gone to Petra to study law. Like many others who fall for the city's charm, she went through "the art experience," the symptom of which is the deep awareness of the importance, the beauty and the meaning of art. It is a phenomenon that does not wear off easily. She got so involved in the Paris art scene that guardians in museums found her familiar and greeted her.

Back in Columbia, she studied drawing and went on to a solitary study of colour.

A few years later, in Indonesia, she was part of the "Group Sembilan," a group of nine artists, 7 expatriates and two Indonesians, who led a wholly artistic existence. She held three exhibitions within a period of two years. On to the United States where she painted for one and a half years and finally to Jordan where she arrived over four years ago.

"Having come from Columbia, a tropical country where everything is green, I find the Jordanian landscape fascinating, dramatic, even poetic," she says. It was her visits to the many areas of Jordan that incited her to paint. She covered Salt, Amman, Petra, Wadi Musa, Jerash etc. in her own particular style. She has

a sharp eye for subjects that lend themselves to a simple composition. Wadi Musa, Shomari and other desert areas do tend to form simple, clean cut landscapes, with plenty of open space, interrupted only by the odd shrub or hillock.

It is in the portrayal of these trivial items that she excels, creating perspective by enhancing texture in the foreground. A shrub has tumultuous "tentacles" while others further up seem less shaggy as they recede.

ART REVIEW

In portraying Badia in Petra, she has a rather original approach (this is hard enough to achieve since Petra has been so inexhaustibly portrayed). She depicts the Nabatean carved rock through a chiaro-scuro of linear brushstrokes, both vertical and horizontal, forming tumultuous rhythms which are as true to her own joyful personality as they are to the scene. It is known that an artist puts a lot of himself in his work.

Her painting of 'Jerash' is a very interesting composition in which she takes advantage of the verticality and the repetitiveness of the columns. She comes up with a diagonal walkway that runs up from one mass of verticality to another. Simple but impressive in its originality.

Another interesting diagonal composition portrays Amman. The descending skyline crowns a

hill that is covered with a dense mass of houses, interacting in medium pastel tones, subdued enough to convey a calm rather than a crowded atmosphere.

On the other hand, in her painting of Salt, houses are outlined volumes with tinted patches of light that not only form a musical variety of rhythms, but maintain the three-dimensional quality of the mountain itself. So much for city scenes.

Her outdoor scenes differ in mood and in rendering. In her "Poppies" she reminds us of the "surprise element" that one cannot fail to experience when he suddenly comes across green pastures covered with blazing red poppies. The experience leaves you breathless, and so does her canvas, covered with titillating intense red strokes in the midst of intense green grass. It is important to take into consideration that placing two contrasting colours side by side enhances the intensity of one and the other. The impact of this work is amazing, yet not too striking because of the fragility of the scattering of the flowers which seems so natural.

The flaming tree is another boisterous, movemented painting of a large tree with fiery tufts of autumn leaves. Intense movement is suggested by the thrust of bare branches and the wild billowing tufts of foliage.

Luz Marina portrays a different mood in other landscapes such as those of the Jordan Valley.



River Jordan: one of the paintings by Luz Marina Robertson

Physical reality seems clothed in mystic atmospheric garb. Slightly surrealistic because of the haze that envelops the distant mountains. "Al Sharrah," for example, has a moonbeam piercing through the mist, beneath it patches of impasto (raised paint) lay as a reminder of the physical world, reminiscent of the symbolists of the beginning of the century.

Water seems to convey to her a need for abstraction, for in two of her paintings River Jordan and Desert Springs, she depends on abstract patches of colour to portray water, shrubs and blooms.

In the first painting, the curvilinear flow of the water is depicted clearly, showing the banks of the river. In the second painting, a variety of floating coloured brushstrokes leaves you guessing.

As for her still-lives, being South American, one could expect Luz Marina to be familiar ad

infinite with pottery jars, and static as they might seem to be, she manages to give them vibrant life through what she might call "tricks of the trade." In one painting it is their staggered placement against a dark background; in another, it is coloured patches and a "waterfall" of shapes and colours in the background that contribute to the vivacity of such a static subject. Here too, her vibrant personality shows through.

Luz Marina also exhibits large pencil sketches of people with different ethnic backgrounds, bedecked with silver jewellery. She loves Bedouin jewellery and does her own designs with antique silver and Hebron glass beads which her friends find fascinating.

To see her exhibit, one finds truth in her exclamation, "I love Jordan so much that I can't help painting it."

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Wrong message from U.S.

IN REACTION to the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's on-going working tour of some Arab countries in the Middle East, U.S. President George Bush had some interesting things to say, something that casts some doubt on the ability of the two superpowers to cooperate together in good faith to effectively and permanently settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

To begin with the U.S. has been sending signals to the parties involved in the Middle East conflict that it wishes to go slow on its involvement in the peace process. That in itself was not comforting to the Arab side including of course the Palestinians who are in the midst of a bitter struggle against savage Israeli occupation.

As the Arab-Israeli conflict is more than four decades old, the Arab parties would have thought that the basics about their conflict with Israel are only too well known if not memorised by now. To signal now, after so many agonising years and in the wake of the on-going Palestinian uprising, that time is not of the essence and that the U.S. can afford the luxury of watching the blood-letting that goes on between the Arabs and Israelis without really doing something about it is not the kind of message the Arabs have been waiting for.

The Middle Eastern countries have been counting on the U.S. for so long to exercise its role as a superpower and come to the rescue of legitimate causes instead of staying as a spectator to the sufferings and killings that go on in the occupied territories. And then when the Soviet foreign minister makes a trip to the Arab capitals in the Middle East in a genuine attempt to lend a hand in order to get the process of peace going, the Washington's main concern becomes how to make sure that the Soviet role, present and future, in the Arab-Israeli conflict remains "limited" for all times, as if such an objective in itself is all that concerns the parties to the conflict. Thus, while the U.S. calls for a "prudent", "slow" and "limited" role for itself, at the same time it seeks a limited role for the Soviet Union. What the U.S. is in effect telling the peoples and governments of the Middle East is that they are on their own to resolve their conflicts and that the superpowers' efforts to get actively involved in the search for peace in the area would be frustrated as a matter of deliberate policy. In other words the U.S. does not want to be "stampeded" into action in the Middle East and at the same time does not want Moscow to do anything about it either. If one adds to the new jargon employed by the U.S. to describe its future course in the Middle East the fact that the Soviet foreign minister was unable to budge his Israeli counterpart from his government's stone-walled position on the idea of convening an international peace conference, and that the PLO is exasperated over Washington's stalling over its talks with Palestinian representatives in Tunis, the total picture emerging from all these developments is anything but encouraging. Someone has got to move and if the peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict has any chance of getting anywhere, the U.S. has to do the moving and fast.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

IN its editorial Wednesday, Al Ra'i Arabic daily discusses the position of the Israeli government leaders vis-a-vis the on-going uprising in the occupied Arab territories. The paper referred to Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's statement in the Knesset in which he admitted that Israel is incapable of putting down the uprising, and urged the Israelis who could not bear the disturbances to pull out from Arab areas where they are living at present. This statement the paper noted, is a total contradiction to Rabin's statement 14 months ago when the uprising was young and when he said that it would be put down in a fortnight. Rabin like Barlev, another cabinet minister, is openly telling the Israeli people that the government with all its troops and arms has now failed to carry out its promises of crushing the uprising, but unfortunately these statements are falling on the Israeli government's deaf ears, the paper noted. All this, said the paper, is a clear indication that the Palestinian people's revolt is going ahead and is taking a sound course. It clearly shows that the Israeli terrorist actions can never bear fruit or achieve an end, the paper added. The Israeli minister and people should realise, the paper concluded, that only through giving the Palestinians their rights and through an international conference can real peace prevail.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily is critical of the United States which, he says, is trying to exploit the situation in Afghanistan following the Soviet pullout from that country. Rakan Al Majali, who is also the paper's editor, says that Washington wants to take revenge on Moscow and make up for its ignominious retreat from Vietnam where it had hoped that a pro-American government would be instituted and where it had hoped to crush the rebels. The writer says that the Soviet Union is clearly oriented towards peace, and for this reason, it is now calling on all peace-loving nations to help re-establish peace in Afghanistan; and for this reason it has sent its foreign minister to the Middle East to help bring about peace in our region too. But, the writer says, in contrast the United States is taking a negative stand towards these two issues, despite the Soviet positive stand and despite the PLO's latest overtures and its clear orientation to attain peace in the region.

Al Dastour daily carried an editorial Wednesday that tackles Tuesday's honouring of municipalities that offered the best services to the public in the past two years. The paper referred to Prince Hassan's speech at the presentation ceremony in which he referred to the challenges which Jordan had faced over the past three decades and were overcome through diligence and serious efforts on the part of the Jordanian people. The paper echoed Prince Hassan's call on the municipal authorities in Jordan to increase their efforts and to provide better services and carry out more well-planned projects. The paper recalled Prince Hassan's call on these municipalities to help Jordan to transform from a consumer into productive society and to promote cooperation with Arab towns and cities in municipal affairs.



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Screaming in Shamir's face

By Ami Dar

ONE OF the saddest experiences for someone returning from a stint of army service in the territories is to see how many friends and relatives simply don't want to hear what you saw or did there. At first you see the blank look in the eyes, you understand that your story isn't sinking in, and you think that maybe there's something wrong with the way you're telling it.

It takes a while to realise that the blank look appeared the moment you began your story. It is not from a lack of sympathy or understanding on the listener's part; it is simply an obstinate refusal to know — a generalised refusal that is possibly the worst casualty the infidels has inflicted on this country.

On January 17, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir came to Nablus for a short visit. After taking a look at the city from a nearby hilltop and being briefed by his generals, he dropped in for a friendly chat with soldiers serving in the area. The most surprising thing about that meeting between the prime minister and the paratroopers was that Shamir seemed genuinely surprised by what he heard there. Stark reality had suddenly struck him in the face, and the anger and impatience that could be seen in his eyes and hands were as much a result of the words he was hearing as of the fact that for several long minutes he was forced to listen and to know.

During the previous evening, when we were told that the prime minister would be arriving the following morning and that he would probably be coming to see us, a few men had joked about what they would tell him should the opportunity arise. Next day we were given that opportunity, and some of us got up and spoke.

There were many things I would have liked to tell Shamir on that sunny morning in Nablus. I would have liked to tell him about my democratic values and what compulsory military service in an occupied city can do to them; I would have liked to speak of how the Palestinians are getting stronger day by day, morally and spiritually, while we are getting weaker, and I would have liked to scream and cry about how our army is being sullied, corroded and undermined by the impossible task the government has given it.

Another issue I would have liked to raise with Shamir was the use and abuse of plastic bullets against young stone-throwers. The orders were very explicit: every stone-throwing incident must end either in an arrest or a stone-thrower with a plastic bullet in his leg. At the same time, we must do our best not to kill anyone; the army has finally understood that every time an Arab is killed, it is they and not we who have scored another point.

Yet carrying out these orders is not as easy as it may sound. Catching children and teenagers who are playing against you in their home court, can be almost impossible, and hitting a running youth at 70 metres with a plastic bullet under the knee (those are the regulations) is extremely difficult. The plastic bullet is much lighter than its steel-coated cousin and therefore, although it is not as lethal, it is far less accurate. Nevertheless, in spite of these difficulties, during the 20 days we spent in the casbah in Nablus, we did exactly as we were told: we killed no one and we hit 17 young Arabs in the leg with plastic bullets.

These 17 kids, and the men who shot them, deserve a few comments. The first is to repeat that all these youths and children were hit in the leg, most of them under the knee. To put this accomplishment in perspective, it should be noted that during the past few months, more than 40 people have been killed by plastic

bullets, while hundreds more have been seriously injured. Had only three or four people been hit by our unit, one could contend that our accuracy was a stroke of luck. Seventeen wounded, however, without even one serious injury, cannot be attributed to mere chance, and the army should check case by case, with file detectors if necessary: why is it that so many people have been killed by plastic bullets? Is it because our troops don't know how to shoot — or is it that some of them can shoot all too well?

In addition, the politicians at the top should know that today there is a blatant contradiction between the oral order given in the field — to shoot or arrest every possible stone-thrower — and the written order to shoot in the air before you fire a plastic bullet.

The trouble here is that by shooting in the air before you shoot plastic, you can make things difficult for yourself. In order to hit these kids, you must stalk and ambush them, and the shot in the air, which may scare them away (as was intended by those who wrote the order), can become an irrelevant nuisance.

This contradiction is often resolved by having someone shoot in the air while someone else fires a plastic bullet; the main thing is to be legally "covered."

The third and final comment is that none of these 17 youths was shot in self-defence: they were all shot as a punishment for throwing stones. The moral implications of this fact are there for everyone to reflect on: we did our best to obey orders, we kept the city quiet, but in the process we intentionally wounded 17 people who never really endangered us.

One of the sentences that was repeated over and over again in the meeting with Shamir was that while we are getting weaker, the Palestinians are getting stronger. I think this contention is especially important for convincing the rational rightists among us that the time has come to leave the territories.

In this country, there are two kinds of people who define themselves as right-wingers. There are those for whom the Land of Israel is sacred and must be kept under Jewish control at any cost, and there are those for whom holding on to the West Bank is simply a matter of security.

With the former group there is nothing to talk about; with the latter, on the other hand, one can have a discussion on their own terms. These are people who understand that Israel's security rests primarily on its military force. Should the army be considerably weakened, "strategic depth" and "natural borders" would not count for much.

That the army, and especially the reservists, have not been training as much as they should (my unit served for almost two months this year, out of which only three days were devoted to training) is common knowledge, as is the fact that the army doesn't have enough money for its needs.

In spite of this, the armed forces are now forced to spend millions of dollars on a lost war instead of investing in new weapons systems. Unfortunately, this is not all. Money, material and training are undoubtedly important, but if an army marches on its stomach, it stands on its discipline and morale. And today the army's discipline is being attacked on two fronts.

On the one hand, too many young recruits are left for long days with too much freedom and too much power to their hands, without being supervised by their commanders. Anyone who has served in an army will understand how potentially catastrophic this can be: orders to young soldiers are almost meaningless if they are not backed by the observant eye of noncoms and officers.

On the other hand, too many soldiers have seen their own offi-

cers openly disregarding or even disobeying the army's laws. In regular fighting units, where officers are often regarded as semi-divine, nothing more destructive could be imagined.

The end result of this overall situation is that the best and the brightest young officers now serving in the army will gradually opt out of a career in a demoralised, inefficient and undisciplined force. Who wants a career with an army that has been involved in petty civil wars for four out of the last five and a half years?

The last point I would have raised with the prime minister, in the hope that he could have done something about it, is a mere trifle compared to all the above. Every day, several observation points are set up on various roofs in and around Nablus. The soldiers who man these posts usually stay put from sunrise to sunset. They eat there, they watch the city awake and trade and work, and sooner or later they also have to defecate. But there are no toilets on the roofs of these buildings, and so the soldiers have to make do with landings, rooftops and abandoned rooms. The results can be appalling.

On one building where I was stationed for a few days, large areas of the roof were covered with a coat of excrement and used toilet paper. Unfortunately, the building's tenants have to bang their laundry on that roof. Believe me, Prime Minister, it's not a pretty sight to see a middle-aged woman from a good family making her way through piles of feces to reach her laundry.

When we asked the brigade commander in charge of Samaria if anything could be done about this problem, we received the usual answer: "No money for chemical toilets."

The trouble, of course, is that if the woman in question had been Jewish instead of Arab, no one would even have thought of using her roof as a public lavatory — The Jerusalem Post.

By Robert Mabro

The writer is director of the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies

IN MARCH 1982 OPEC began its recourse to production programming in an attempt to regulate the world petroleum market. An examination of production patterns shows that, in 1982-88, Saudi Arabia consistently under-produced even when it emphatically asserted that it renounced its role as swing producer, and that the UAE consistently over-produced.

OPEC's production programmes display regular features which suggest that two main criteria — oil reserves and population size — are implicitly taken into account in the allocation of quotas. The main exceptions relate to Iran and Iraq because of political difficulties arising from the Gulf war. Countries with limited production capacity were allocated production quotas close to full capacity, and countries with large reserves, quotas representing a fraction of their capacities. This seems to recognise that the time preference of small reserves countries is biased in favour of present revenues and that of large reserves countries in favour of the future. The implications of this observed pattern are many. Since the bulk of surplus capacity is with the large reserves countries in the Gulf, incremental demand for OPEC oil is necessarily supplied by these countries. The complaints of other OPEC members that the Gulf countries appropriate a large proportion of the growth in oil demand do not make much sense. Similarly, the complaints of some Gulf countries about their sacrifices in support of OPEC's common good should be qualified with the observation that they will soon be in a position to appropriate vir-

OPEC's production policies: How it works and why it does not?

tually all incremental demand.

The fact that incremental demand for OPEC oil will soon be shared, almost exclusively, by the Gulf countries raises interesting problems about their ability to reach agreement in the future on this issue. It also appears that while production agreements will increasingly become a Gulf affair, pricing policies will remain a contentious issue for the whole OPEC. Paradoxically the whole of OPEC was involved in negotiating production agreements in 1987-88, and the whole of OPEC ignored the price issue in these deliberations.

The argument developed at this point is that the pricing issue is the more fundamental one. Production programmes without an organic link with a pricing policy are like Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark. They could also be likened to an actor deprived of a role.

But why are OPEC's production agreements so short-lived and so prone to failure in their implementation? The answer that members of a cartel have an irresistible tendency to cheat is not sufficient. Some of the problems inherent are due to: (a) short-sighted political compromises and expedient tactics involved in the negotiations for production agreements; and (b) the ambiguities surrounding Saudi Arabia's position towards

production programmes and its role as a swing supplier. Political compromises have aggravated the UAE quota problem which has marred all OPEC's production agreements, and their implementation, since 1983. They have caused Iran to cheat and Iraq to stay outside production agreements in 1986-88. Saudi Arabia's ambivalent attitudes towards production programmes led it to claim the role of swing supplier in 1982-84. This claim reinforced perceptions among other oil-exporting countries, that Saudi Arabia will bail them out come what may.

Finally, it is concluded that the Gulf countries have a political interest in retaining OPEC as a going concern, even though all the important oil policy decisions will be exclusively theirs to take. The assessment of OPEC's production programmes is that they are good as crisis-management devices, bad because of their inability to fulfil important stabilisation objectives and of their being divorced from pricing policies, and silly because they incorporate artificial and short-sighted solutions to serious long-term problems which cause some temporary rejoicing to traders in oil markets but do little good to producing countries and to the oil industry whose real and significant interests are essentially long-term — O.APEC Bulletin

OPEN FORUM

Satanic menace

THE recently published "Satanic Verses" by the British writer Salman Rushdie has so far managed to bring its author fame, wealth and a death warrant. As a writer, Rushdie enjoyed moderate success which is fuelled by his rebellious attitude and liberal approach towards his own Asian social and cultural roots. Recently, he staged the biggest coup of his professional career by the publication of his work "The Satanic Verses," a reference to verses which it is claimed were inspired by the devil. The book views the Prophet Mohammed in a manner which most followers of the Islamic faith would find both defamatory and blasphemous.

The book which was for sale on the shelves of the famous British bookstore (W.H. Smith) attracted waves of angry protest from British Muslim leaders who called for the boycott of both the book and the bookstore. Fearing the financial loss which this self-imposed boycott could inflict on the store and realising that the book was not selling as well as was expected, the bookstore withdrew the book as a sign of goodwill on its part towards the Muslim community. Many observers believed this action by the bookstore settled the matter for good. However, some elements in the British media, notably the tabloids of gutter journalism, interpreted the move by W.H. Smith to withdraw the book as a submission to pressure and blackmail from the Muslim lobby. Eventually the store reversed its earlier decision and the book was again on sale in high streets all over the country. This, in turn, enraged the Muslim community and gave impetus to a new campaign to have the book banned. This renewed campaign took on an international dimension with pictures on British television showing angry protesters burning copies of the book (which were incidentally bought from the very bookstore thus helping to raise the sale figures for the book). Wild demonstrations and protests erupted in Islamabad in which a number of protesters perished in the violence which ensued. People were called on to the streets of Tehran and other Iranian cities to protest the book and call for the heads of its author and publisher which Khomeini has authorised personally. Meanwhile the saga continues to generate more pointless publicity and increased revenue from the sale of the book. The author is currently under police protection for fear of an attempt on his life.

A careful analysis of the events of the past few months in relation to this affair is bound to shed some light on the following main points:

1. The amateurish manner in which the opposition campaign has handled the whole affair. For although every devout Muslim should be outraged at the book, opposition to its publication needs to be carried out in a civilised fashion and governed by codes of good conduct and acceptable behaviour in order to minimise any unnecessary antagonism and diversion of resources. The opposition campaign should have been carefully engineered to be practical and without the violence and fanaticism which caused the loss of human lives.

2. The way in which lessons of the recent past have been forgotten so quickly. It is evident that some actions, if not thoroughly studied, can result in consequences which are quite the opposite of what was intended in the first place. A recent example of this phenomenon is the British government's attempt to ban the book "Spy Catcher" on the grounds that it undermines national security. This attempt has failed to produce the desired effect. On the contrary, the publicity which the book has attracted helped raise the sale figures for the book and made its author a millionaire. The British government, on the other hand, managed to get its fingers burnt in the process because it overlooked the fact that the essence of successful book publishing is an equally successful publicity drive.

3. The speed with which some fanatical elements of the so-called guardians of the faith grab any opportunity with a potential for boosting their own personal standing is phenomenal. As soon as a likely source of danger to the faith can be identified, the fanatics waste no time in mobilising the masses under their leadership. The high emotions and hysteria which is created in the process is both unnecessary and counterproductive.

4. The domain of "freedom of expression" needs to be re-defined by the British criminal law, for example, has provisions for charges such as causing grievous bodily harm or indecent assault, etc... Should there be parallel charges which are applicable to religious beliefs and faith? Unfortunately, some elements of the British media who can influence the government and public opinion and who project themselves as strong advocates of religious freedom abandoned their stance as soon as it became apparent that the religious freedom in question was that of the majority Muslim community. Some went further by exploiting the situation to attack the faith by casting the 'first stone'!

Husam Alqurra

EN BREF

La Reine Noor en France

La Reine Noor a quitté lundi Amman pour Paris, pour une visite de quelques jours en France. Sa Majesté a inauguré mardi une exposition de mosaïques byzantines de Jordanie (Mont Nebo, Madaba), à Lyon. La Reine doit également visiter à Lyon la Maison de l'Orient méditerranéen, centre de recherches organisateur de cette exposition, qui entretient des liens étroits avec les milieux universitaires et archéologiques de Jordanie.

Amnistie partielle

Le Roi Hussein a ordonné samedi la libération de tous les détenus qui ont purgé plus de la moitié de leur peine et de tous les détenus pour délits administratifs, à l'occasion de la création du Conseil de coopération arabe (CCA). Le souverain a également ordonné la réduction de moitié de la peine de tous les autres détenus. Aucune précision n'a été donnée sur le nombre de personnes qui doivent profiter de la décision. La dernière amnistie en Jordanie, dont ont bénéficié plus de mille détenus, remonte à novembre 1984, à l'occasion du 50ème anniversaire du Roi.

Frederico Mayor à Amman

Le directeur général de l'UNESCO, Frederico Mayor, a effectué de vendredi à dimanche une visite de trois jours en Jordanie, où il a rencontré le Roi Hussein. Il a annoncé une aide de 30.000 dollars de l'UNESCO à la Jordanie pour la restauration de Petro, inscrite en 1986 sur la liste du patrimoine international. Il a également annoncé le lancement d'un programme entre l'UNESCO et les pays arabes pour la rénovation des bases de l'enseignement primaire, sa généralisation et la suppression de l'analphabétisme chez les adultes d'ici l'an 2000.

Après le CCA, l'UMA

Les chefs d'Etats d'Algérie, de Tunisie, de Libye, de Mauritanie et du Maroc ont signé vendredi à Marrakech l'acte constitutif de l'Union du Maghreb arabe (UMA), que les peuples de la région appellent de leurs vœux depuis de longues années. La première présidence de l'UMA a été confiée au roi Hassan II du Maroc, pour un an. Cette union concerne 62 millions de personnes (180 millions pour le CCA). Inspirée par la CEE dans ses statuts, l'UMA entend préparer des relations économiques plus efficaces avec la Communauté européenne à la veille du "grand marché" de 1992. L'UMA est ouverte à l'adhésion d'autres pays arabes et africains.

Deux Palestiniens expulsés en Jordanie

Saleh Osman Abdallah, 22 ans, et sa sœur Haifa, 20 ans, vivant à Naplouse, ont été expulsés lundi par les autorités israéliennes vers la Jordanie car ils ne possédaient pas de permis de séjour. Convoqués par le gouverneur militaire pour retirer une carte d'identité militaire, ils ont été forcés de monter dans un jeep qui les a conduits au pont Damieh. Nés à Zarqa, ils étaient devenus orphelins en 1967 et vivaient depuis avec leur grand-mère à Naplouse. Arrivés en Jordanie avec leurs seuls vêtements et huit dinars, ils déclarent n'avoir jamais participé aux activités de l'intifada. La Croix-Rouge a été saisie de leur cas, considéré par Amman comme une violation des conventions internationales des droits de l'homme.

Guy Laroche est mort

Le couturier français Guy Laroche, un des précurseurs du prêt-à-porter, est décédé à l'âge de 66 ans vendredi à son domicile parisien des suites d'une longue maladie. Fils d'hôteliers de La Rochelle (ouest de la France), il était monté à Paris pendant la guerre. Il avait fait son apprentissage chez le couturier Jean Dessès, de 1949 à 1955. Il avait ensuite ouvert une première boutique à son nom avenue Franklin-Roosevelt, dans le centre de Paris, avant de s'implanter avenue Montaigne en 1961. Il a pu ensuite diversifier ses activités grâce à l'aide financière, à partir de 1968, d'un industriel, le baron Bich.

La Palestine à l'IMA

L'Institut du monde arabe (IMA) de Paris a retenu mercredi le principe de l'admission de la Palestine en son sein, a annoncé Edgard Pisani, président de l'IMA, qui a également annoncé l'adhésion de l'Egypte à cette institution. M. Pisani a indiqué que le terme «Palestine» a été préféré à celui d'«Etat palestinien», la France ne reconnaissant pas cet Etat. «Le terme Palestine est expressif sur le plan politique, même s'il est juridiquement ambigu», a estimé M. Pisani.

Il a rencontré Arens puis Arafat au Caire

Chevardnadze optimiste

Le ministre soviétique des Affaires étrangères, Edouard Chevardnadze, a entamé cette semaine sa tournée de dix jours au Moyen-Orient, en visitant Damas, Amman et Le Caire. Il a présenté sur le conflit israélo-arabe des idées nouvelles. Mais surtout, il a créé l'événement en rencontrant le ministre israélien des Affaires étrangères, Moshe Arens, puis Yasser Arafat hier au Caire.

La rencontre Chevardnadze-Arens, annoncée samedi à Damas, a suscité des espoirs tant du côté israélien que palestinien. C'était la première du genre, et elle illustre le rapprochement progressif entre Tel-Aviv et Moscou, depuis la rupture de leurs relations diplomatiques en 1967. Cependant, à l'issue de deux heures et demie d'entretien, les deux ministres n'ont pas réussi à surmonter leurs divergences. M. Chevardnadze avait indiqué mardi qu'il allait essayer de convaincre Israël d'entamer le dialogue avec l'OLP. «Il y a des différences de vues entre nous, et nous allons poursuivre les discussions, au niveau des ministres des Affaires étrangères et à d'autres niveaux», a déclaré le chef de la diplomatie soviétique.

M. Arens a de son côté précisé que les discussions israélo-soviétiques allaient reprendre dans les jours à venir, où des experts des deux pays se rencontreraient.

Mais Israël rejette toujours l'idée d'un dialogue avec l'OLP et d'une conférence internationale. L'Etat hébreu continue à prôner des négociations directes entre les parties en conflit, sous l'égide des seuls Etats-Unis et de l'URSS.

M. Chevardnadze devait rencontrer hier la soirée le leader de l'OLP, Yasser Arafat. «Je suis d'un naturel optimiste. C'est la seule attitude possible. Il faut trouver une issue au conflit», a-t-il dit.

Dimanche à Damas, le ministre soviétique avait révisé de nouvelles propositions pour le règlement d'un conflit, selon M. Chevardnadze, il convient de réunir un «comité



Edouard Chevardnadze

préparatoire» des cinq membres permanents du conseil de sécurité des Nations-Unies (Etats-Unis, URSS, France, Chine, Royaume-Uni), fixant à neuf mois le délai nécessaire à la période préparatoire d'une conférence de paix.

Selon lui, il faut intensifier les consultations entre ces cinq membres, en contact avec les parties en conflit. Il suggère en outre d'utiliser le «potentiel pacificateur» de l'ONU, notamment par l'intermédiaire de son Secrétaire général, Javier Perez de Cuellar.

«Aucun pays ne peut arriver dès le départ avec des propositions acceptables par toutes les parties. Il faut donc unir nos efforts pour préparer un plan acceptable; c'est pourquoi je dis que je n'ai pas de proposition particulière dans ma poche», a déclaré M. Chevardnadze, qui doit encore se rendre à Bagdad et à Téhéran.

A Washington, le Secrétaire d'Etat James Baker a rejeté son idée d'un comité préparatoire, la jugeant prématurée. (F.D.)

Shamir à Paris — Le premier ministre israélien, Yitzhak Shamir, a entamé mardi une visite officielle en France. Il s'est entretenu hier avec le président François Mitterrand, à qui il a reproché la position de la France en faveur d'une conférence internationale.

La décision, ferme et unanime, constitue un avertissement aux tenants de la ligne dure à Téhéran, qui s'opposent aux modérés partisans de l'ouverture vers l'Occident, sous l'impulsion du président du parlement, Hashemi Rafsanjani.

La condamnation décrétée il y a une semaine par Khomeiny, assortie d'une prime de plusieurs millions de dollars, semble sans appel, malgré les «regrets» exprimés samedi par Rushdie. L'écriture

L'Europe rappelle ses ambassadeurs à Téhéran

Versets sataniques: la contre-attaque

Les ministres des Affaires étrangères de la CEE ont décidé lundi à Bruxelles de rappeler en consultation leurs ambassadeurs ou chargés d'affaires en Iran et de suspendre les visites de haut niveau dans ce pays, à la suite de la «condamnation à mort» de l'écrivain Salman Rushdie par l'ayatollah Khomeiny.

Les ministres, qui ont également décidé de limiter la liberté de déplacement des diplomates iraniens dans le Marché commun, ont affirmé leur souci de protéger l'auteur des «Versets sataniques», Britannique d'origine indienne.

Téhéran a riposté mardi en rappelant ses diplomates en poste dans les pays de la CEE. La décision européenne, sous prise sous l'impulsion des Britanniques et des Allemands, intervient au moment où plusieurs pays occidentaux tentaient de normaliser leurs relations avec l'Iran, notamment le Royaume-Uni.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher, ministre ouest-allemand des Affaires étrangères, s'est montré le plus ardent partisan de mesures fermes contre Téhéran. La RFA, le plus important partenaire économique occidental de l'Iran, avait déjà annoncé vendredi le rappel de son chargé d'affaires à Téhéran.

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Combattre la pensée par la pensée

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Pas de condamnation des violences israéliennes

Prudence à Washington

Les Etats-Unis ont confirmé qu'ils entendaient ne réaffirmer leur politique au Proche Orient qu'avec la plus grande prudence et sans hâte, en mettant leur veto à une résolution critiquant les pratiques d'Israël dans les territoires palestiniens occupés, au Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU vendredi.

Le veto américain a causé une nette déception dans les milieux diplomatiques arabes, où l'on considérait cet examen du Conseil sur l'aggravation de la situation en Cisjordanie et Gaza, comme un test de la volonté de la nouvelle administration américaine de faire quelques pas supplémentaires sur la voie d'un règlement du conflit.

Certains diplomates se demandaient si ce test n'avait pas été mené un peu trop tôt, et s'il n'aurait pas été préférable de laisser le temps au président George Bush de mettre en place tous les responsables de sa politique au Proche-Orient, compte tenu des risques de voir un veto alourdir l'atmosphère pour la poursuite des discussions entre les Etats-Unis et les dirigeants de l'OLP et d'envoyer le mauvais signal à Jérusalem.

La France, qui participe au côté de l'Espagne et de la Grèce à la «Troika» de la CEE sur le Proche Orient, a souligné devant le Conseil de sécurité qu'il était devenu «urgent» de préparer une

conférence internationale de paix, le «statu quo de plus en plus meurtrier n'étant plus acceptable».

Mais les Etats-Unis n'ont indiqué en faisant circuler parmi les membres du conseil un contre-projet de résolution de dernière minute, que leurs priorités étaient tout à fait différentes. L'annonce d'une solution résiderait selon eux, dans le respect d'Israël des conventions humanitaires de Genève, mais également dans la volonté des Palestiniens d'accepter leur part de responsabilités et de mettre un terme au soulèvement (intifada) pour s'engager avec Israël sur la voie du dialogue et du compromis.

La situation au Proche Orient a été évoquée à plusieurs reprises ces derniers jours lors des échanges du secrétaire d'Etat James Baker en Europe, qui a été pressé par certains de ses homologues européens d'entreprendre au plus tôt une mission de paix au Proche-Orient.

Selon son entourage, M. Baker s'est montré réservé, prônant au contraire la prudence. A ce stade, il préférerait, selon les mêmes sources, encourager des mesures de confiance et l'ouverture d'un dialogue entre les dirigeants israéliens et des notables palestiniens proches de l'OLP pour mener vers l'autonomie, un tant qu'étape intermédiaire d'un règlement définitif. (agences).

FIGURE

La photo aveugle

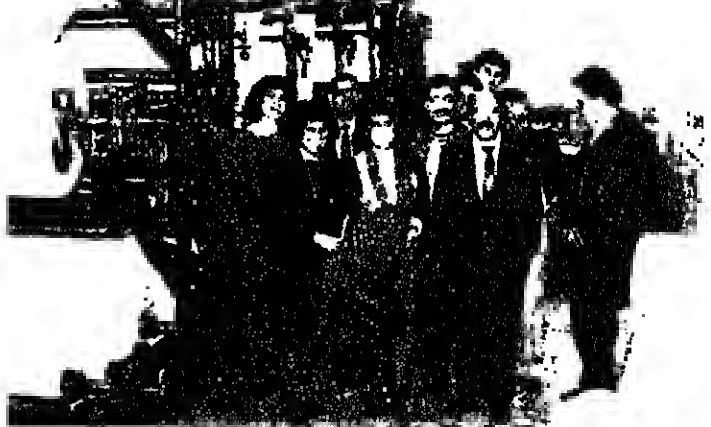


Photographe et aveugle. L'association peut sembler incongrue, et pourtant, l'Egyptien Nazih Rizk a récemment exposé 300 oeuvres photographiques à l'université de Los Angeles, chaudement accueillies par un public averti. Une histoire peu banale, qui commence par une bagarre dans la cour d'une école. Le petit Nazih reçoit un mauvais coup au visage et perd la vue. A l'hôpital, où l'on tente en vain une opération pour lui rendre ses yeux, il reçoit la visite d'un camarade. Pour le réconforter, l'ami malade n'a rien trouvé de mieux que de lui apporter en cadeau... un appareil photo. Nazih ne se vexe pas, bien au contraire, et relève le défi: pendant dix ans, il va s'entraîner à la photo. Sa technique est maintenant

bien au point. Il jure d'abord pendant 24 heures pour affiner ses sens. Au toucher, à l'ouïe et à l'odorat, il «repère» son sujet et décrit à son assistant le cadrage qu'il veut obtenir. Celui-ci place l'appareil à la distance voulue, puis Nazih règle lui-même la vitesse et l'ouverture, se repérant à l'oreille par le cliquetis des bagues autour de l'objectif. Il ne voit pas le résultat de ses prises de vues, mais les autres jugent: médaille d'or du Centre artistique John Kennedy (Washington).

Nazih Rizk définit ainsi son art: «Quand j'ai perdu mes yeux, ma vision intérieure s'est ouverte. Si l'on veut vraiment voir la beauté, il suffit de l'éclairer à la lumière de son coeur». (F.D., d'après Al Majal)

CCF: les visiteurs du soir



Un groupe de sept étudiants de niveau «français actif» du Centre culturel français d'Amman a visité mardi les locaux du Rai-Jordan Times. Ils étaient accompagnés de leur professeur, Olivier Roche. Les étudiants ont porté un intérêt particulier aux calligraphes, qui écrivent à la plume tous les titres du journal en arabe. On les voit ici devant les rotatives de l'imprimerie.

A L'AFFICHE

CINEMA

Kramer contre Kramer

De Robert Benton, avec Meryl Streep et Dustin Hoffman: une femme quine son mari en lui laissant son petit garçon de six ans. Le père découvre son enfant. Mais bientôt, l'épouse veut récupérer celui-ci. Cinq Oscars.

Centre américain, jeudi 23 et dimanche 26 à 19h00 (en anglais)

Fantozzi

De Luciano Salce, avec Paolo Villaggio, Anna Mazzamauro, Gigi Reder: comédie italienne.

Hays Arts Centre, jeudi 23 à 19h30 (en italien)

Ciné-club

Séances respectivement à 13h00, 15h00, 17h00, 19h00, 20h30. Le 23: Mr. Versus Mrs. Cotton club

To feed a changing world

The 'greenhouse effect' — the gradual heating of the earth's atmosphere — will change the way mankind grows food. It may force nations to change their diets and render fertile lands unusable for anything but the hardest of crops.

By Maggie James

LONDON — As the world moves inexorably under the unwelcome canopy of the greenhouse effect, it faces the inevitable challenge of feeding itself in the fast changing environment for traditional agriculture. How ready is it for that change?

Scientific writer and broadcaster Colio Tudge, author of a new book *Food Crops for the Future*, published by Basil Blackwell in Oxford, believes the greenhouse effect on the planet may confront us with that monumental challenge sooner than expected. Whether the greenhouse effect is with us now, or whether the past year's freak weather in many parts of the world has been part of a historical cycle, remains moot.

But as scientists have stressed frequently in recent studies, when the greenhouse effect does officially commence its momentum would be hard to stop. Tudge

puts that in perspective. "throughout most of their existence," he says, "human beings have had very little control over their own destiny."

The problem of how to use science well remains one of the great challenges for the world community. "Science is immensely powerful," Tudge points out, "it is the greatest single agent of change. It needs on the one hand to be handled delicately, and on the other to be wielded subtly. In general neither of these things happen."

The environmental change now being talked about will result from a global warming of the earth, caused when a buildup of carbon dioxide and other gases traps the sun's rays in the lower atmosphere. Indiscriminate burning of fossil fuels such as coal and oil, and the release of chemicals into the atmosphere, already has raised fears that there is more noxious gaseous mass surrounding the planet than may be

desirable.

Weather changes

The weather changes on a warmer planet, Tudge says, will cause sudden shifts from one kind of climate to another. One result of the global warming will be rising ocean levels and widespread flooding. Another will be radical changes in the agricultural patterns. Tudge asserts that we cannot stop the "greenhouse effect" happening, but we can make contingency plans for it — especially to feed ourselves.

"All crops, worldwide, are grown close to their physiological limits to get the most out of them. But this means that they are vulnerable: a two-degree fall in global temperature, for example, would eliminate the Canadian wheat crop," he says. The need for a global strategy to cope with climatic change alongside a rapidly expanding population therefore becomes obvious.

By the year 2000 the world population will have exceeded six billion and by the middle of the next century, 10 billion. "If our ancestors had not learned to cultivate plants, all those millennia ago, then the human population could never have risen to more

than a fraction of a per cent of the figure that is soon liable to be attained," says Tudge.

"If we do not continue the processes of cultivation more adroitly and efficiently, then we have little chance of feeding the extraordinary numbers of people who will be born into this world in the next few decades, and no chance whatever of doing so without obliterating our fellow species."

The improvement or maintenance of flavour in food crops is just as important as yield or outcropping in the feeding of human beings. "Westerners who have not experienced hunger often seem to imagine that people who are hungry will eat anything," points out Tudge.

"This simply is not the case. Even when people are in severe danger of starving, they may find it physically difficult to consume food that is unfamiliar. In addition, people who are most in danger of starvation are in general those who rely heavily upon a single crop: rice, perhaps, or sorghum or millet."

If the world's people are to be fed without destroying all other forms of life, then plants must be cultivated in many different cir-

cumstances and many different ways. This is where science will be invaluable.

As an example, Tudge reveals how 750 million people, about one in six of the world's population, live in the areas known as the semi-arid tropics. These areas extend through Asia, including much of India; across the middle of Africa, south of the Sahara, in the region known as the Sahel; and into South America.

Part of these regions is irrigated, but most relies entirely upon rain that falls only for a few brief weeks each year. Farming inevitably is small scale, and the ambition is not to feed the cities, as it is in Europe, but for farmers to subsist, with enough left over for a little income. In these regions, says Tudge, crops must be bred above all for resilience.

Artificial selection

Scientists can replace the forces of natural selection with artificial selection and alter plants genetically for easier and more responsive cultivation. These are designated "improvements." Tudge indicates that some of these improvements make the crops more compliant, for example, making them germinate, grow and ma-

ture within a certain time.

Plants can be established which resist the stresses of their environment, for instance where there is drought, excessive heat, pests or viruses. Quality can be improved in many ways and yield can be raised.

But Tudge says that crop improvement is difficult and expensive — not least because the reproductive biology of plants is complex — and depends on worldwide cooperation and science of a very high degree.

"Agriculture is 10,000 years old but the modern age of plant breeding based on genetics began only in this century, and genetic engineering is only into its second decade. In a hundred years' time, discussion of possible new species to cultivate might seem simply quaint — for by then the world's principal crops, however many there are, may already contain genes from tens of thousands of species," he asserts.

Tudge identifies another area of importance as the grazing lands of the world. If these were well-managed and well-stocked with appropriate plants, he says, they could transform the prospects of the whole world. — Academic File.

Food Crops for the Future



COLIN TUDGE

Apartheid housing creates a vigilante atmosphere

By Andrew Steele
Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — An atmosphere of vigilante justice has concentrated the minds of South Africa's ruling politicians into sorting out the middle of the country's apartheid housing laws. The root of the problem is the ruling National Party's (NP) so-called group areas laws which impose strict residential segregation by race.

The vast majority of non-whites are forced to live in separate townships, often distant from the "white" towns, or in impoverished tribal homelands set up by Pretoria.

But pressures of urbanisation and a chronic township housing shortage have increasingly forced non-whites into "grey areas" — poor white districts, often close to the city centre, where police turn a blind eye to group areas contravention.

The picture is further complicated by legislation which has given the go-ahead for official "grey areas" much to the consternation of the biggest opposition party in parliament, the far-right Conservative Party (CP).

CP supporters have taken to the streets to prevent what they see as the dangerous erosion of housing apartheid.

In one incident a banner-waving crowd, including a CP town councillor, hung a hangman's noose outside the newly-bought home of an Indian family in Mayfair West, a white suburb of Johannesburg.

The family abandoned any hope of moving in. Police took no action against the white demonstrators, despite vigorous protests from blacks and white liberals who asserted that a similar demonstration of blacks would have incurred the full wrath of the law.

The success of the CP supporters emboldened others to take similar steps. A second Indian homeowner in Mayfair West has been threatened and is being prosecuted for contravention of the group areas laws.

In the Indian Ocean city of Durban, where an estimated 67,000 people are thought to live in the "wrong" area, leaflets circulate white districts calling on residents to resist the "pushy, ooisy, overbearing eastern way of life."

The leaflets, which accuse the city's Indian population of everything from ooise to had driving, exhort whites to take direct action if oo-whites try to move in.

At the small CP-controlled town of Kraaifontein, near Cape Town, authorities switched off the power and water supply to a house in a white area which had been bought by a coloured (mixed race) family.

Such shows of intolerance have been roundly condemned by liberal and pro-government press alike, with calls for an end to the group areas laws.

"It has nothing to do with political principles or separate development or some imagined protection of a white nation. It was pure and simple racism," the moderate Star Newspaper said. "It is apartheid philosophy re-

duced to its basic nastiness," it added.

"The erection of whites-only signs and the running of an Indian out of a white suburb demonstrate that if the CP ever came to power, the country would be in terrible trouble," the pro-government Citizen Newspaper said in a recent editorial.

"(This is) not to mention the encouragement the CP's actions would give to overseas countries to impose more sanctions and isolate South Africa totally," it added.

Nationalist MP Johann Viloei challenged his own party to apply the group areas laws or scrap them altogether.

"We cannot leave the group area policy hanging in the air as it is now. It is high time we made up our minds."

"We must find ways of opening areas that must be opened as soon as possible and closing the others. Or, if we cannot close them, we must tell our people that we cannot, and scrap the act," Viloei said.



Black South Africans building homes not their own

PLAZA

1989

TIMES

Friday

SUNDAY & EVERYDAY
Luncheon Buffet
at the
Coffee Shop



JD.6.500 Adults
JD.3.500 Children

Saturday

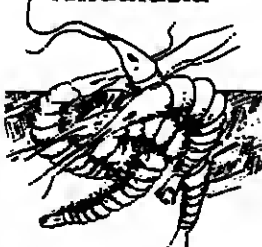
Prime Rib
Night
at the
Coffee Shop



Prime Rib
Yorkshire Pudding
Baked Potato, Vegetables
Selection of Sweets
JD.6.500 pp

Sunday

Jumbo Shrimp
Night
at the
Andalusia



Sea Food Cocktail
Shrimps: Grilled, Deep Fried,
or Provencal
Selection of Sweets
JD.10.000 pp

Monday

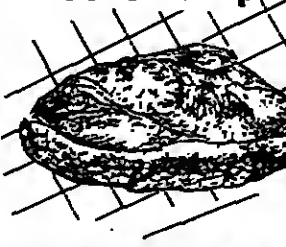
Spanish Paella
Night
at the
Coffee Shop



Sea Food Soup
Traditional Paella
(Rice, Shrimp, Hamour &
Calamari etc...)
Selection of Sweets
JD.6.500 pp

Tuesday

Steak Night
at the
Coffee Shop



Charcoal Broiled Steak
Green Salad
Baked or Fried Potatoes
Vegetables
Selection of Sweets
JD.6.500 pp

Wednesday

Indian Buffet
Night
at the
Coffee Shop



Beef, Lamb, Chicken,
Shrimp or Vegetables.
Nam Bread
Selection of Sweets
JD.6.500 pp

Thursday

Sea Food
Night
at the
Andalusia



Set Menu Or A la Carte
Selection of Sweets
JD.10.000 pp

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Focus on people

Helping the needy

EDITORS NOTE: As of this week the Jordan Times introduces a new weekend column to its readers — Focus on people — which will present Jordanians from all walks of life.

By Mariam M. Shahin

AMMAN — Social services and voluntary work are talked about, written about and often capitalised upon. Very few people ever bother to find out who actually gets the work done. Joan Mary Majali is one of those women behind the scene. This week Mrs. Majali agreed to talk to Focus on People about her experiences in voluntary and charitable work in Jordan.

"I came to Jordan 33 years ago, after getting married. I had been educated and trained as a nurse in London where I grew up," she recalled. "Upon arriving in Jordan I began applying my vocation as a volunteer with the Near East Christian Association for Refugees, one of the organisations aiding Palestine refugees in the 50s and 60s in Jordan."

"My husband was director of medical services in the Armed Forces in the late 50s and I began to help out, on a voluntary basis, in the nursing sector of the army," she said. "At that time there were no female nurses in the army; they were all male orderlies. Female nurses were rather looked down upon in that decade of Jordan's history. I was raising my three children at the time, so I was not able to give all my energy to this very worthy cause. Infant mortality was very high at the time and many women, country folk in particular, needed some guidelines as to ways of making their lives more safe and practical." Mrs. Majali pointed out that despite the wild west atmosphere of survival of the fittest, "Jordan was very pleasant in its communal atmosphere where everyone knew each other and people's generosity and kindness were genuine and simple."

"For quite some time I acted as a liaison between various teams of British nurses and the nursing sector of the Jordanian army. The doors that were being opened were endless; sometimes I would work up to 14 to 16 hours a day. We were involved in the process of transforming the medical services, based on traditional means and forms, to western means and methods of providing medical services to the community," Mrs. Majali said.

"Nothing went too far in the efforts exerted towards the betterment of hygiene and medical conditions at the time," according to Mrs. Majali. "For three months I worked in the laundry sector of the hospital at Marka, introducing the special methods of sterilising hospital linen and clothing."

Mrs. Majali's efforts paid off in the early sixties the Princess Mona College of Nursing opened its doors. "The Al Bashir Hospital already had the equivalent of a four year nursing college but the opening of the second college more solidly introduced nursing as a social and medical service."

"Although the nursing team was originally foreign, it was gradually turned over to qualified Jordanians." Subsequently Mrs. Majali became involved with Ladies of the White Bed, a voluntary organisation which promoted the welfare of patients and staff in civilian hospitals.

"In the late sixties Jordanians became more aware than ever of the need for voluntary social services. Involvement of the public in social services should technically go beyond awareness, of course. There are a few snags which still have to be dealt with, such as duplication and coordination, which are essential to any effective and efficiently run organisation or service."

"What is meant by duplication is that, 'people often give help or volunteer to give help where they think help is needed. Each one wants to do his or her 'two things' and consequently projects that should get priority often don't. Organisations or committees dealing with the same 'cause celebre', such as deafness or blindness don't always coordinate activities or with one another. Until we deal with this aspect we will not have completely succeeded in our aims to help the needy."

Mrs. Majali points out that in the past, it was mainly women from the diplomatic corps and members of the foreign community that volunteered to help out in charitable organisations. "The Jordanian woman of today is very much aware of the role she has to play in her community. The need for her to actively participate is more evident to her now than ever before. She has become more aware to the needs of her own people."

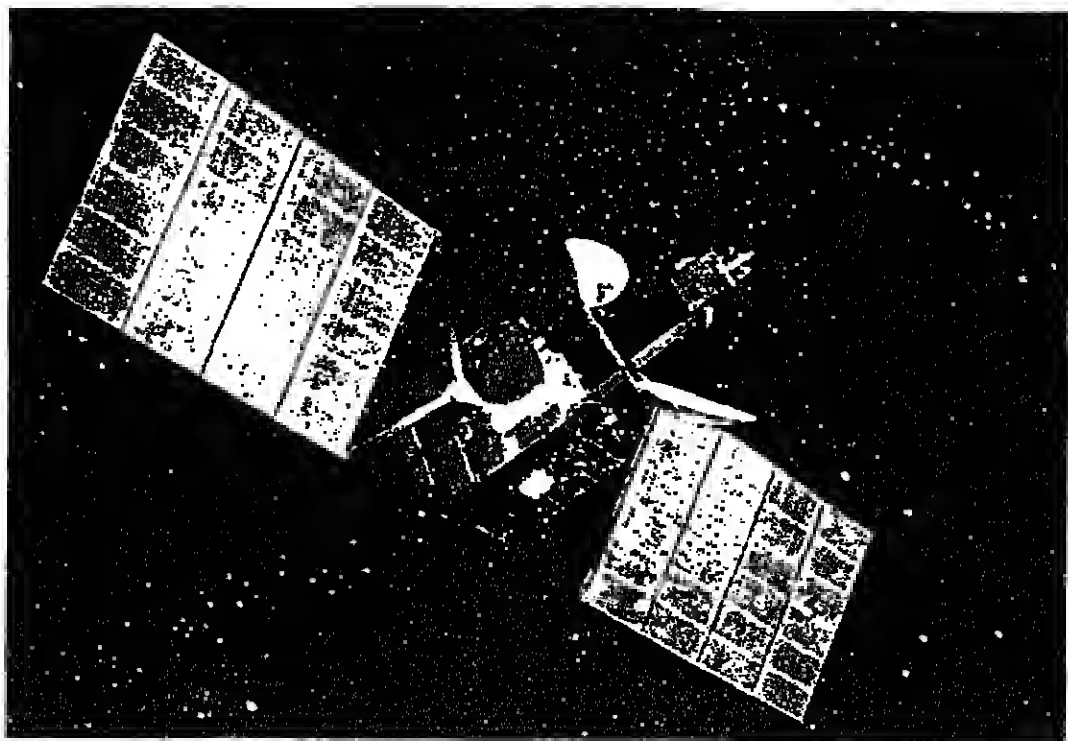
As Jordanian society grows and changes and extended family becomes less visible than in the past and thus the need for social services and voluntary social workers increases.

Mrs. Majali also spoke of her involvement in the Jordanian Swimming Federation, when it was first created. "I was mainly involved in the federation as a mother of three avid swimmers. It is unfortunate that the availability of sports facilities for children are still limited to the chosen few of Jordan's youth. The main obstacles to extending sports facilities to a larger number of youth in Jordan is more likely to be financial than social. It is a shame because sports are really an essential part of a child's healthy development."

In 1980-81, the year of the handicapped, Mrs. Majali became the secretary of the National Committee for the Handicapped. She had previously been involved in the activities of the Cheshire Home which was to become the Al Hussein Society for the Physically Handicapped. She is also involved in organising the activities of the Sports Federation for the Handicapped and is vice president of the Cerebral Palsy Foundation.

Mrs. Majali and her husband, Dr. Abdul Salam Majali, the president of the University of Jordan, live in Amman. They have three children, Samer, Sawan and Shadi-Ramzi (a small reminder of his mother's Scottish forefathers), and are grandparents three times over.

Mrs. Majali stressed that Jordanian charitable and voluntary institutions should be run by Arabs and not foreigners. "That is why I have never accepted the key post in any of the organisations I have worked with," she pauses. "But, then again, why shouldn't I? I am an Arab."



Satellites — medicine doctors in space

Artificial satellites orbiting the earth far out in space already represent a mine of information about our planet. What contributions can they make to primary health care?

By Petar Jovanovic

GENEVA — The efforts of the World Health Organisation and member states to attain "health for all" through the primary care approach requires support from all available technologies. Remote sensing and sending by space satellites deserves to be

seen as the latest addition to that universal effort.

The application of satellite remote sensing in primary health care needs to be explored. The full impact of this technology will be realised only with careful project planning and the cooperation of specialists from many disciplines.

Many of the WHO member countries already use remote sensing imagery in health-related fields, including agriculture, forestry, public works, water development, geology, urban planning, communications, education, climatology, meteorology, assessment of natural resources, and monitoring of natural disasters.

But medicine so far has not included this technology among

its broad approaches to preventive health care. Although public health can adapt this technology as a powerful tool to reduce morbidity and mortality from many diseases, it is still not numbered among the users of satellite remote sensing.

Satellite sensory systems can detect environmental parameters closely linked to pathogens or vectors of diseases. Of course the satellites, orbiting high above the earth's atmosphere, cannot observe these organisms nor the symptoms of diseases in humans. But they can determine those parameters of the air, water, soil and vegetation which can be examined to determine the likely presence in the environment of the pathogenic agents. This information can be of value to epidemiologists and have immediate potential for disease control.

Sensory systems

Parameters detectable from space include the temperature of water, air and soil; humidity of the air; turbidity of water and its alkalinity, acidity, velocity of flow; aquatic vegetation and catchment areas; quantity of vegetation; presence of minerals, plankton, chlorophyll and heavy metals.

The sensory systems capable of measuring those parameters from space include radar, laser beams, microwaves, x-rays, ultra-violet, infra-red and, of course, optically visible light. If more specific sensors are needed, it would be possible to develop new ones or adapt existing systems.

When the eight essential elements of primary health care, as defined in the Declaration of Alma Ata are examined, it is not hard to foresee a wide-ranging application of satellite technology in health.

Education about prevailing health problems can deploy both remote sensing and remote sending of messages and pictures. Combined with all other methods of education, it can transfer necessary knowledge to the community and help it to train all those who take part in education and training activities.

In food supply, remote sensing surveys can identify good land and soil for proper food production, and help control industrial pollution. It can facilitate an easier food supply in remote areas and indicate the extent of problems in normal or in emergency situations.

Safe water and basic sanitation depend on a well-run water supply. Satellite imagery can play an

important role in locating water resources, monitoring the quality of surface water, and surveillance of water pollution. Areas that are most likely to be flooded or exposed to droughts can be identified. This in turn can sound a warning about the risk of water-borne diseases.

As for maternal and child health care — since mothers and children are most vulnerable to endemic infectious diseases and water and food problems — systematic remote sensing surveillance of environmental situations can predict, locate and help control health hazards. Radio and television communications can also popularise curative health measures.

Bacterial infections

Many viral bacterial infections are linked to climate, being arthropod-borne, air-borne, water-related diseases. So the planning of immunisation can be based on satellite surveillance. Sometimes epidemics start during migratory events, during the mingling of populations in disaster situations, or near water supplies. In all these situations, satellite imagery can help to predict potential epidemics and to plan immunisation.

Among the main locally endemic diseases are malaria, schistosomiasis, onchocerciasis (river blindness), and trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness). The presence of the parasite agents concerned can be deduced by detecting indicators of their presence of physical conditions likely to encourage their growth (or the growth of their vectors).

The distribution and differentiation of environmental parameters can then be compared with the patterns of morbidity and mortality in the community in order to identify the link between pathogens and environment. This method of satellite surveillance, together with studies of environmental changes of air, water, soil and vegetation, can locate potential places of growth of pathogens and vectors.

Subsequent field action can help to cut out the links in the biological chain which encourages the survival of the pathogens and their vectors.

Common diseases and injuries are usually dealt with by local

health personnel. However, fast advice and guidance given to local health workers from larger health centres by more skilled personnel can be based on satellite radio and television communications. Indeed medical emergencies have already been handled in this way in remote islands of the Pacific. Training in this kind of health care can be orally and visually provided by satellite to inaccessible areas.

Provision of essential drugs is more a problem of production, but it is not totally separated from satellite technology, which can play an important role in locating places where the needs are urgent. It can also identify the best soils and land for growing essential herbs for pharmaceutical production.

On a broader canvas, satellite imagery can detect environmental degradation over large areas and identify specific details. Large areas can be seen in a small picture. Repetitive coverage over long periods allows us to follow and study seasonal and other changes that are relevant to epidemiological surveillance and control measures.

If combined with ground or sensor systems and field verification of data, the results can provide a reliable data-base for public health planning. The communication of messages and television pictures can reach every spot on the earth, however remote.

Would the introduction of this technology in public health be expensive? Even though resources and manpower are limited, public health workers in many countries can use existing photographs commissioned for other government sectors or commercial enterprise. It is not difficult to learn to interpret them and understand them.

The health experts have only to read the existing data in a new way. Remote sensing facilities exist in many countries, and public health authorities only need to seek access to these available resources.

Public health is already in a position to open a new chapter in preventive medicine, "satellite epidemiology." When to these functions can be added the transmission of advice and guidance on curative care, it will be possible to speak of "satellite medicine." — Academic File.

Dr. Petar Jovanovic is a Yugoslav physician, and was the official representative of the International Astronautical Federation to the Technical Discussions held during last year's World Health Assembly. This article is adapted from a study he wrote for World Health, the Geneva-based WHO magazine.

Endives — the new chic of the palate

By Eva Kaluzynska

Reuter

KAMPENHOUT — The unassuming endive, traditional winter fare in Belgium, is being touted as the new glamour vegetable.

Growers out to capture export markets are promoting the country's favourite vegetables as a gourmet specialty.

The cigar-shaped endive — "chicon" to Belgium's French speakers, "witloof", literally whiteleaf, to the Flemish — is a fleshy, slightly bitter vegetable, grown in total darkness and served either raw or cooked.

It is called chicory in Britain and Japan.

"Belgians already eat about 80 heads of endive a year each. We can hardly sell any more than we already do here," said Gerrit Heremans, president of one of the country's biggest daily endive auctions in Kampenhout, central Belgium.

Belgium exports about a third of the 110 million tonnes of endives it grows each year. They brought in \$49 million of export earnings in 1987.

Heremans, who ships to markets as far afield as Japan and Australia, is among those who want to boost quality exports and make Belgian endives as well-known abroad as Brussels sprouts.

He sees sophisticated, affluent North Americans as the biggest potential target. They currently take some nine per cent of exports.

Cosmopolitan

"We're aiming for cosmopolitan, diet-conscious consumers. And it looks good in high-fashion

nouvelle cuisine too, New York's our best market," he said.

Belgium's endive industry was thrilled when the esoteric vegetable briefly became an issue in the U.S. presidential campaign last summer.

Democratic contender Michael Dukakis suggested hard-up mid-west farmers could try growing something more profitable — such as endives.

Dan Quayle, Republican vice-presidential candidate, held up an endive for the cameras as he mocked the idea.

"That was fantastic publicity. Our U.S. agent got hundreds of calls from buyers wanting to know where they could get endives," Heremans said. The industry is determined to turn inquiries into steady sales.

"The Belgians just planted these in millions of minds" is the endive marketing board's slogan to the U.S. trade.

"They're very versatile and absorb the flavour of whatever you cook them with," said Brussels chef Pierre Brack at his restaurant, Astrid Chez Pierrot. His specialties in a 60-year career have always included game braised with endives.

Romantic origins

The endive comes from the same plant as chicory, the root roasted and used as a coffee substitute. Heremans says its romantic European origins provide good advertising copy to help capture a market hungry for novelty.

No-one knows who discovered that its crisp, pearly-white leaves were edible, too, but the best story tells of a brabrant farmer who fled in the turmoil of revolution in 1830.

He had been keeping some

chicory roots in his cellar for fodder, and covered them with soil before fleeing.

Today, traditionally-grown endives are still produced in much the same way. Big producers have their endive beds in sheds, rather than in fields under corrugated iron covers.

U.S. newspapers intrigued by an exotic new delicacy for chic dinner parties have particularly liked the idea of something yuppies can eat without feeling guilty.

Endives are high-fibre, low-sodium and only have one calorie per leaf.

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Anxiety and more anxiety

By Anne Senior

Reuter

NEW YORK — If a pile of unread newspapers gives you a guilty pang and an overflowing in-tray brings on a panic attack, help may be at hand.

Author Richard Saul Wurman has come up with a treatment for "information anxiety," described as a stress syndrome resulting from a surfeit of data.

Wurman, designer of easy-to-use telephone directories and travel guides, suggests how to cope with the 20th century scourge of data overload in his new book, "Information Anxiety."

Many of us display symptoms of the malady, he says. We feel guilty about not reading enough, are too ashamed to admit ignorance of the stock market or the Middle East situation, remember little and understand even less of what we read.

Wurman, 53, said in an interview with Reuters that his book is a response to the growing burden of keeping up to date with developments at work and in the world.

He says pressure to be informed can lead to obsessive but ineffective reading, feelings of

inadequacy, and an inability to admit what we don't know.

He suggests a "low-fat information diet" — an individually designed programme whereby the maximum data may be digested with minimum effort.

The business world has shown a particular interest in the book because it appeals to managers desperate to cut a swathe through the data on their desks, Wurman said.

John Sculley, chairman of Apple computer, called the book: "the most important tool for understanding information in years."

Compulsive disorders

Stephanie Kravec, a psychotherapist specialising in compulsive disorders, said she had come across a number of people with problems similar to those described by Wurman.

"Students, business people, brokers — anyone in a competitive environment where data is important is at risk," said Kravec, who is a consultant to the post-graduate centre for mental health in New York.

Wurman's talent for data-sorting, which has earned him the nicknames "data doctor" and "clutter buster," has also turned

him from an aspiring architect into a successful entrepreneur.

His has an information organisation firm, the understanding business, which produces directories and maps, and a guidebook publishing company, Access press.

He has redesigned the California yellow pages directory and is now preparing to unveil a guide to understanding the Wall Street Journal.

Wurman describes his new book as a guide for disoriented victims of the "information explosion" — the proliferation of data products and services seen this century.

"I would call it the dis-information explosion," Wurman said. "Data is not information — the root of the word is 'inform' and a lot of this stuff just doesn't inform."

He writes that the New York Times contains more information in one edition than a person in the 17th century was likely to encounter in a lifetime.

In the United States alone there are more than 1,000 television stations and 10,000 radio stations, according to figures from the National Association of Broadcasters.

But instead of making us more

knowledgeable than our forebears, the data deluge has dulled our ability to take in what we read, shortened concentration spans and made us more aware of what we don't know, Wurman says.

He writes that a chronic fear of being uninformed produces a condition similar to the eating disorder bulimia — in which eating binges are followed by self-induced vomiting.

An "information bulimia" sufferer has attacks of subscription mania, when publications pile up at home or in the office, inducing guilt and then a period of data purging.

One remedy suggested in the book is a strict information diet — one leading daily newspaper, to be taken regularly, plus one news magazine and one culture publication. For professional needs, the book offers guidance on how to work out a leaner specialist diet.

Media specialist Peter Clarke welcomed the book.

"This is one of the few good efforts to address the problem of turning data into information," said Clarke, Dean of the Annenberg School of Communications at the University of Southern California.

Independent oil producers agree to help support OPEC prices

LONDON (AP) — Several independent oil producing countries said Tuesday they would cut or freeze oil exports during the second quarter to help OPEC support world oil prices.

The non-OPEC group, after a daylong meeting in London, released a statement saying more information was forthcoming but did not disclose details of the agreement or say which countries would participate.

"Specific announcements with respect to the above decisions will be made by the respective authorities in the course of next week," the group said in a statement.

Participating in the talks at the Mexican embassy were Mexico, Oman, Malaysia, Egypt, China, and Angola, the communiqué said. Also attending were observers from the Soviet Union, Colombia, North Yemen, Norway, Alaska and the Canadian province of Alberta, it said.

Oil analysts said the agreement would help bolster oil prices in

the short-term. But they added that such cuts would have little impact on the buoyant supply and weak demand in the oil market.

There was little immediate reaction in the London oil market. After the communiqué was released, the spot price of North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded international crude oil, was \$16.30 a barrel, up 10 cents from late Monday.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange, the March contract for West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark grade of U.S. crude, fell by about 15 cents following the announcement.

Analysts said the lack of details about the agreement pressured the market.

The agreement "is fairly significant," said Philip Morgan, an oil analyst with the London in-

vestment firm Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers. "I think it means the extension of the oil producers' group, even if the countries don't want to commit themselves to OPEC at this stage."

It also was significant that the independent producers were acting unilaterally, analysts said. They were doing so because the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has managed to curb its production, they said.

Last year, independent oil producers offered to cut their output by five per cent, if OPEC agreed to reciprocal cuts. OPEC refused.

Some OPEC members have expressed resentment that independent producers enjoy the benefits of the group's production limits without making a contribution.

OPEC's 13 members are estimated to be producing about 19.5 million barrels a day, one million barrels above their agreed production limit but well below their

fourth-quarter production. OPEC has set a target price of \$18 a barrel.

"The psychological impact (on the oil markets) will be quite strong," Morgan said. But, "I think the total volume of the cuts makes little difference to the whole supply and demand question."

James Henderson, an analyst at Barclays De Zoete Wedd Ltd. in London, said, "basically, we see it as fairly positive for the oil price short-term. Basically, it will help OPEC through the seasonal demand downturn in the second quarter. We still see a dip in the oil price but not as dramatically as it would have been."

Henderson predicted oil prices would fall to \$14.50 to \$15 a barrel in March and April.

The analyst said he expects the independent producers to cut exports by between 200,000 and 300,000 barrels a day, but that "isn't going to have a dramatic effect on the supply and demand balance."

'Markets expected tougher talk'

U.S. central bank to continue interest rate hike against inflation

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Federal Reserve (Fed) Chairman Alan Greenspan said Tuesday the central bank will keep up its inflation-fighting efforts by pushing interest rates higher to combat what he called a troubling acceleration in price pressures.

Greenspan, in his semiannual report to Congress on monetary policy, said the Fed expects "to support continued economic expansion while putting in place conditions for a gradual easing in the rate of inflation over time."

He added, however: "Let me stress that the current rate of inflation, let alone an increase, is not acceptable, and our policies are designed to reduce inflation in coming years."

Analysts said that while Greenspan's testimony before the Senate Banking Committee demonstrated a commitment to fight inflation, financial markets had hoped for something stronger.

"It's matter of tone, but the markets would have preferred a little more anti-inflation vigour," said economist David Wyss of Data Resources Inc. in Lexington, Massachusetts.

Added economist David Jones of Ambrey G. Langston and Co. in New York, "in view of the new and disturbing evidence on inflation, ... the markets were expecting some even tougher talk from the Fed chairman."

"There's a general perception that maybe the Fed is falling a bit behind the inflation curve," Jones said.

Since last March, the Fed has been nudging up interest rates, trying to slow economic growth and avoid a flare-up of inflation. Those efforts intensified last

week after a report on prices at the wholesale level showed a one per cent increase during the month of January, equivalent to a compounded annual inflation rate of 12.7 per cent.

Prices at the consumer level in 1988 increased by 4.4 per cent, the same pace as during the previous year and a rate that Greenspan considers worrisome.

"With the economy running close to its potential, the risks seem to be on the side of a further strengthening of price pressures," the Fed chairman said. "In these circumstances, the Federal Reserve remains more inclined to act in the direction of restraint than toward stimulus."

Unprecedented combination

Greenspan said the Fed's task of charting monetary policy has been made more difficult by the unprecedented combination of an aging economic recovery, financial failures in the savings and loan industry, rising levels of corporate debt and the large trade and budget deficits.

"We have never confronted a situation that is exactly comparable to what we are in at this particular stage," he said.

Greenspan said the problems are so large "that is very significantly skews policy toward reducing the budget deficit and making certain that inflation does not accelerate."

"It's clear to me that much of the problems that we are confronted with could be assisted in an extremely positive way by a very expeditious and significant cut in the deficit," he said. "I am not one of those who believes that the process of cutting the deficit can be overdone."

Congressional leaders met with President George Bush Tuesday to discuss budget and deficit-

reduction plans, but legislators still were hoping the administration would provide more details on where it believes spending can be reduced.

Greenspan said he remained optimistic that an agreement could be reached.

"We cannot take the risk of not resolving it," he said. "The degree of risk of allowing this whole process to fester is unacceptable."

Bush in recent weeks has voiced fear that the Fed would overreact to concerns about inflation, saying he saw no need for the central bank to push interest rates higher.

The Fed has been pushing up short-term interest rates by a behind-the-scenes process that siphons off available bank reserves. This tightening of the money supply drives up the cost of that money — interest rates. But while the Fed nevertheless has continued to push up interest rates, Greenspan in his testimony played down his differences with the Bush administration, particularly on assumptions for future economic growth.

The Fed expects the economy, as measured by the gross national product, to expand 2.5 per cent to three per cent in 1989. The administration, meanwhile, forecasts growth of 3.5 per cent this year and is counting on short-term interest rates to gradually decline.

The banking committee chairman, Senator Donald Riegle, called the administration's rosy outlook "startling" and questioned whether it was realistic. But Greenspan said the Bush forecast was "reasonable" considering the administration's deficit-reduction and budget plans.

Greenspan also refused to criticize the administration's proposal

to reduce the capital gains tax as a way to stimulate investment and generate more revenue.

Greenspan said that the Treasury Department's revenue projections are "credible" and that he would like to see the capital gains tax rate lowered so long as the reduction is not accompanied by tax increases elsewhere.

Consumer prices rise 0.6 per cent in January

Meanwhile, U.S. consumer prices started the year with a sharp 0.6 per cent rise in January, the largest monthly gain in two years and twice as high as December's increase, the Labour Department said Wednesday.

The January increase in the consumer price index (CPI), the most widely used measure of inflation, was driven mostly by petrol, tobacco and certain food items, especially meats, poultry and eggs.

The January increase, which was higher than most Wall Street economists had expected, was the highest since January 1987, when the index jumped 0.7 per cent. In December, it rose 0.3 per cent.

Economists expect inflation to pick up in 1989. They also expect the Fed to react to mounting inflationary pressure by hiking interest rates.

New inflationary pressure this year is likely to come from energy costs, which were stable last year, in addition to existing upward price pressure in services, wages and imports, they said.

Much of the reason for the higher core inflation rate was a 4.8 per cent increase in the cost of services, including medical, transportation and shelter, which accounts for more than half of the CPI and reflects growing pressure by workers for higher wages, economists said.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Sudan, Libya establish joint bank

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan and Libya have established a joint bank with a \$50 million capital, the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported Tuesday. It said the agreement was signed Monday by Sudanese Finance Minister Omar Nour Al Dayem and Libyan envoy Jagloui Al Sanousi. The bank will have its headquarters in Khartoum. SUNA said Sudan would pay the equivalent of its \$25 million share of the capital in local currency because of its acute shortage of foreign currency. It did not say when the bank would start operating or specify the services it would offer.

Iraq reports higher energy activities

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi oil production increased by nearly 20 per cent last year and its oil exports rose by 15.3 per cent, Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi was quoted as saying. Baghdad newspapers quoted him saying that also gas exports increased by 55.2 per cent last year and Iraq's oil refineries increased their capacity in the same period by eight per cent. He gave no estimate for total oil production which he said had risen by 19.3 per cent last year. In December, four months after a ceasefire ended the Iran-Iraq war, Chalabi said that Iraq was producing 2.75 million barrels of oil per day. Speaking to mark the anniversary of a reform drive, he added that 30 oil enterprises were abolished or amalgamated and the number of employees in the oil industry was cut from 74,000 to 53,000 in 1988.

African debt may rise to \$300b in '90

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Africa's external debt could rise to \$300 billion next year from \$230 billion now unless quick action was taken to contain it, the head of the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa said Tuesday. Adebayo Adedeji, the commission's executive secretary, said at a meeting of African foreign ministers that African governments needed more international support for their economic recovery programmes. "Africa must also find ways of stopping flows of resources to the industrialised countries and find solutions for debt servicing problems so as to use the resources for development," he noted. A panel of experts has already recommended to the OAU foreign ministers that debt repayments should be linked to increased aid and credit flows from the industrialised nations. Adedeji said the structural adjustment programmes advocated by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank had produced "no sustained results." He urged African states to devise their own development programmes focusing on "domestic markets and factor inputs" to promote medium- and long-term growth.

Yugoslavia hikes petrol prices by 35%

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslavia, struggling with annual inflation running at 300 per cent, boosted petrol prices by almost 35 per cent Wednesday, Tanjug news agency reported. It said the increase, which pushed 85-octane petrol to 2,870 dinars (45 cents) a litre and 98-octane to 3,130 dinars (49 cents), was necessary in order to adjust domestic prices to import prices paid in dollars.

Europeans want single air control

BRUSSELS (R) — Western Europe's scheduled airlines launched a campaign Tuesday for a single air traffic control system to ease congestion and halt worsening delays for passengers. The 21 members of European Airlines (AEA) will fund a study to prove that a pan-European system would be more efficient than the present "patchwork" of national systems, the association's secretary-general, Karl-Heinz Neumeister, said. "Many deficiencies would not exist if we had one air traffic control system," he told a news conference. "The United States has one system in an area which is nearly double the size of Europe." West European air traffic is managed by more than 20 national systems which liaise with each other by telephone. An attempt to set up a supranational system under a body called Eurocontrol failed when some states refused to relinquish control over their air space. But Neumeister said the AEA would appeal to the 12-nation European Community, which has a common air transport policy, to take the lead in reviving the idea of a single system.

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IRS REPRESENTATIVE AVAILABLE

A representative of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service will be available on the following dates to answer questions and provide information on U.S. income tax filing:

Sunday, February 26:
8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Individual sessions at the American Center, 3rd Circle.
1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.: Individual sessions in the Consular Section, American Embassy.

Monday, February 27:
8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Individual sessions at the American Center, 3rd Circle.
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.: Taxpayers' seminar at the American Center, 3rd Circle.

Tuesday, February 28:
8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Individual sessions at the American Center, 3rd Circle.
1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.: Individual sessions in the Consular Section, American Embassy.
For further information please call 644371 ext. 233.

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Panhandle to buy Texas Eastern

HOUSTON (R) — Natural gas pipeline operator Panhandle Eastern Corp said it had reached agreement to buy Texas Eastern Corp for \$3.2 billion, ending a protracted fight involving Coastal Corp. The \$53 a share agreement is a total of \$650 million more than Coastal, a diversified energy company, offered for Texas Eastern. Panhandle said it plans to continue a programme begun by Texas Eastern of divesting all its non-pipeline assets in order to concentrate on the gas transmission business. Proceeds will be used to repay debt incurred in the tender offer, it said. The merger pact, approved by Panhandle's board and by Texas Eastern's would make Texas Eastern a wholly-owned subsidiary of Panhandle Eastern. Robert Hunsucker, chairman of Panhandle Eastern, said of the acquisition: "Combining two of the natural gas transmission industry's premier companies creates a natural gas pipeline system of more than 44,000 kilometres capable of serving markets throughout the midwest and the northeast."

Nigeria to import more fuel

LAGOS (R) — Nigeria, hit by a refinery fire and loss of capacity at other installations, will import 840,000 tonnes of fuel this month and next, a senior Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) official said Tuesday. Michael Ajiboye, head of commercial services at the corporation's products marketing division, said imports, mainly of petrol, aviation fuel and diesel, would probably continue in April at a reduced level. Existing agreements for refining Nigerian crude oil abroad would cover most of the emergency needs, he said. Ajiboye said a portion of the imports would be covered by purchases from the spot oil products market, but this was unlikely to amount to more than 10 per cent of the total. Nigeria produces about 1.4 million barrels (b/d) a day of crude oil and usually sends around 40,000 b/d abroad for processing to supplement capacity at its own three refineries.

Bush welcomes foreign investments

WASHINGTON (AP) — President George Bush Tuesday welcomed Japanese and other foreign investment in the United States and said he would like to see other countries more receptive to American investors. At a news conference on the eve of his departure for Tokyo, Bush was asked what his response was to Americans who think Japanese holdings in the United States are too large. "I tell them that the Japanese are the third largest holder of investment in the United States, behind the U.K. and the Netherlands," he said. "I tell them that it is important, if we believe in open markets, that people be allowed to invest here, just as I'd like to see more openness for American investors in other countries." And, Bush added, "I tell them, don't get so concerned over foreign ownership that you undermine the securities markets in this country. We have horrendous deficits, and foreign capital joins domestic capital in financing those deficits." Bush said Americans have to do a better job of knocking down the barriers to U.S. exports overseas.

Greek garbage collectors begin strike

ATHENS — More than 6,000 municipal workers Wednesday began week-long strike that will stop garbage collection and leave parks without attendants. "If you don't find a solution... Greece will sink" went the cry from more than 5,000 demonstrators outside the interior ministry. The strike began with a march to press demands for a collective wage agreement and salary increases. The president of the Union of Municipal Workers, Dimitris Mihailopoulos, said the strike came after the Socialist government reneged on a promise to settle the dispute. "We are the people who, rain or snow."

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell		
U.S. dollar	538.0	542.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	424.0 428.3
Pound Sterling	937.2	947.4	Dutch guilder	258.6 261.2
Deutschmark	291.8	295.0	Swedish crown	85.1 85.9
Swiss franc	342.6	346.2	Italian lire (for 100)	39.8 40.2
French franc	85.7	86.3	Belgian franc (for 100)	139.3 140.7

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.7540/50	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1970/80	Canadian dollar
	1.8398/8405	Deutschmark
	2.0765/75	Dutch guilders
	1.5690/5700	Swiss francs
	38.56/61	Belgian francs
	6.2700/50	French francs
	1351/1352	Italian lire
	126.65/75	Japanese yen
	6.3070/3120	Swedish crowns
	6.6950/7000	Norwegian crowns
	7.1610/60	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	385.90/386.40	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Stocks closed stronger and near the day's highs as the weaker local dollar continued to entice overseas and local buyers to the share market. The All Ordinaries index rose 11.5 points to 1,492.9.

TOKYO — The Nikkei index rose sharply to end near the day's high at a record close of 32,311.93, up 331.85 points. A higher yen encouraged already bullish investors.

HONG KONG — Share prices ended higher after a volatile day, encouraged by Tokyo's record close. The Hang Seng index rose 10.92 to 3,161.56.

SINGAPORE — The market closed higher as renewed buying interest and short-covering brought widespread gains in a day of active trading. The Straits Times industrial index rose 7.22 to 1,138.75.

BOMBAY — Share prices closed higher on scattered institutional buying after the market opened cautiously. In textiles, Century rose 10 rupees to 1,550.

FRANKFURT — Shares dropped to 1989 lows in active trading after a Bundesbank securities repurchase allocation fuelled fears that domestic interest rates would rise. The DAX index closed at 1,292.17, off 15.35.

ZURICH — Prices closed mixed with a firmer bias, but buying was selective amid market concern that domestic interest rates would rise further. The all-share Swiss index rose 1.1 to 960.8.

PARIS — Prices lost ground during nervous afternoon business, undermined by revived worries about higher interest rates worldwide.

LONDON — Shares quickly fell to new lows for the day in afternoon business, reflecting a 30-point fall on Wall Street after a higher than expected rise in the U.S. consumer price index in January. At 1559 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 23.8 at 2,097.2.

NEW YORK — Stocks stayed sharply lower in mid-morning but were off their lows following release of the price data. The Dow was down 24 at 2,302.

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Cinema PLAZA

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SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Flojo wins Owens award

NEW YORK (AP) — When Florence Griffith Joyner was 15 years old, she received one of her biggest disappointments from Jesse Owens.

On Tuesday, Griffith Joyner again was linked to the great sprinter and long jumper of the 1930s — and it was one of her most gratifying experiences.

Griffith Joyner, who sprinted to three Olympic gold medals and one silver medal in 1988, and broke world records in the women's 100-metre and 200-metre dashes, received the 1989 Jesse Owens International Trophy award.

Her first association with Owens was when Griffith Joyner was 14 years old and won a race at the Jesse Owens Aro games to qualify for a trip to San Francisco. That was her first time out of the Watts ghetto in Los Angeles.

The following year, she won the race again, and thought she had qualified for a trip to Texas. But after being congratulated by Owens and telling him how happy she was about going to Texas, he joked by saying, "you won last year and (the) second-place (finisher) is going."

"He made a young girl cry," Griffith Joyner said.

"Later, I learned who Jesse Owens was and I could have kicked myself for what I had

done..." Griffith Joyner said she now not only admires Owens for his "athletic performances... winning four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics... but also outside of that."

"I was proud that Jesse Owens didn't let his accomplishments get in the way... of the kind of person Jesse Owens stood for and his family still stands for," she said.

'Black panther'

Ruth Owens said there was a striking resemblance between the running styles of her late husband and Griffith Joyner.

"She runs smooth, he ran smooth... as smooth as a black panther," Mrs. Owens said.

Griffith Joyner ran smoothly and brilliantly last year. She shattered world records by astonishing margins, lowering the 100 mark from 10.76 seconds to 10.49 and the 200 record from 21.71 to 21.34. And she won Olympic golds in those events, plus the 400-metre relay, along with a silver in the 1,600 relay.

In barely missing a fourth gold, she fell just short of Owens' remarkable accomplishment of winning four golds in the 1936 Olympics.

The Jesse Owens International

Trophy award is presented annually to the athlete who best

Griffith Joyner has not competed since the summer Olympics last year in Seoul, and is tentatively booked to make her first 1989 appearance at Tokyo on May 10 in the 400-metre dash.

But there is a possibility she might end her highly competitive track career to devote more time to her numerous outside commitments, which have been piling up since the games.

"It's been difficult to squeeze in my training," Griffith Joyner said. "I will have to look into it to see whether I will continue my athletic career."

"I want to compete this year and next year."

Her husband, Al Joyner, the 1984 Olympic gold medalist in the triple jump, said it is "difficult to get motivated again" after winning an Olympic gold.

"She wanted only one gold medal," he said. "She got three."

"She may run again just for the love of it — not for gold."

Bruno fans arrive in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (R) — About 3,000 Britons are expected to invade this town to give Frank Bruno moral support for his longshot bid to win Mike Tyson's heavyweight title this week, British promoter Mickey Duff said Tuesday.

He said the 3,000 fans include a sizeable number of expatriate Britons from California.

Asked if Bruno, a 7½-to-one underdog against the undefeated Tyson, needs to have the support of his compatriots, Duff said: "It will help. Besides that means there will be 3,000 fewer Americans there."



Frank Bruno

Mayotte thrives on past

PHILADELPHIA (R) — Third-seeded American Tim Mayotte returned to the scene of former triumphs Tuesday and scored a

6-4, 6-2 second-round victory over Tom Nijssen of the Netherlands at the U.S. pro indoor tennis championships.

"There is always a feeling of confidence returning to a site or a city where you have done well and I feel that here," said Mayotte, who won this \$602,500 event the past two years.

Ninth-seeded American Michael Chang, on the eve of his 17th birthday, defeated exhausted wild card entry Richey Reneberg of the U.S. 6-1, 7-5 in his opening match.

All seeded players received first round byes which worked to Chang's advantage. Chang took the first five games from Reneberg, who won a long first-round match Monday night.

"I thought he was tired from the night before," said Chang. "To come back and play the next day so soon after is like having a party before your next match."

Mayotte captured Nijssen's serve in the ninth game of the first set and broke him twice in the second set to wrap up the one hour and 16 minutes match. But Mayotte, 28, said he felt "rusty" playing on the supreme court surface.

"It took me a bit of time to get used to the court," said Mayotte. "Last week in Memphis we played on hardcourt and it was a different bounce for the ball."

Finns sweep ski golds

LAHTI, Finland (AP) — Marjo Matikainen, after winning bronze and silver medals in her two last races, finally captured a gold at the World Nordic ski championships Tuesday.

And the Finns got their second medal sweep of the meet as Matikainen edged veteran Marja-Liisa Kirvesniemi by two seconds and Pirkko Maata took third in the 15-kilometre classic-style race.

Matikainen led the race all the way, posting the fastest intermediate times, and clocked a winning time of 47 minutes, 46.6 seconds.

"I didn't expect to win," she

said after becoming the first triple medalist of the championships. "I started in a faster pace than the previous two races and tried to keep an even pace throughout the race."

Kirvesniemi, the 1984 triple Olympic champion, started 41st and was able to check Matikainen's split times.

"But I didn't ski very well during the first part of the race," said Kirvesniemi, who trailed Matikainen by 12.6 seconds at the 7.5-kilometre mark. "It was very tough. But I think I really finished well."

It was the first time the 15-kilometre race was contested among the women in a world championship.

Kirvesniemi had won the 10-kilometre classic-style race Friday ahead of Maata and Matikainen as the Finns shut out the Soviets, who dominated the women's Olympic races a year ago.

In the medal standings, Finland moved to three gold, three silver and three bronze, leading the pack after seven of the 15 scheduled events.

The Soviet Union is second at 2-1-1 and Sweden, which swept the men's 15-kilometre freestyle event Monday, is third at 1-1-2.

Nancy Fiddler of the United States ended a four-year World Cup points drought for the U.S. women by finishing 15th in 50:43.0.

Fiddler watched the scoreboard as the final times were posted and raised her arms over her head while a friend ran over to give her a hug.

She was 13th when she finished, and of the skiers starting behind Fiddler, only Matikainen and Kirvesniemi beat her time.

"I thought I'd be 16th and I kept saying, 'oh, let me pick up one place somehow,'" she said.

"This is great. I'm on a roll." Fiddler also was the top U.S. finisher in the two other races here, 25th in the 10-kilometre classic-style race and 23rd in the 10-kilometre freestyle event.

Elena Valbe of the Soviet Union, who won the 10-kilometre freestyle ahead of Matikainen Sunday, kept her lead in the World Cup overall standings despite sitting out the race. She has 115 points.

Matikainen is only tied for seventh in World Cup standings and Kirvesniemi is fifth.

Tuesday's race drew 20,000 fans, pushing the total to a championship record of 242,000 with five days left.

Defector joins Cologne

COLOGNE (R) — Andrzej Rudy, one of Poland's top players before he defected to the West last November, has joined West German first division club Cologne.

The 23-year-old international midfielder, who failed to return home from Italy after travelling to Milan with the Polish squad for a soccer friendly, trained at the club Wednesday after signing a two-year contract.

But Cologne, who kept the deal secret until Rudy first appeared at training, said an in-

ternational ban on the player would prevent him from playing for them this season.

Last December the International Football Federation (FIFA) suspended Rudy after he tried to sign a contract with French champions Monaco. FIFA said he needed a certificate from his national federation to join a foreign club.

The Polish Soccer Federation, who banned him for five years after the defection, would not provide one.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

— As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Many will wonder why things are the way they are. It will be necessary to work with time and use patience when constructive relations fail to appear. Fate can be an ally when life is on a steady path.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Avoid saying things in haste which you really don't mean. What you are experiencing in relationships, and financially, will improve.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Today you may have the conviction to say, "I can do it." Enjoy good times, improved energy, and a current lucky streak.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A recent attraction can be a rose that bears thorns. Avoid a dark path by remaining faithful to current connections.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Worry over finances can produce anxiety and unresponsive attitudes. Good fortune is yours when you relax with your partner.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Your talents are admired by superiors. A pleasant companion helps you. Loyalty to work can affect family pleasures.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Sexual attraction to someone younger

can be thrilling and adventurous. A false path could upset current family life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A surprise invitation may be received. Be ready for love. Dress to please.

You are anxious to go places and see things.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) An argument could snowball into a full-fledged fight. Try to find a just approach. Don't fret over chores and do them peacefully.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you are in a blue mood, try not to blame others for how you feel. Change your thinking back to positive.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Use concentration, establish routines and your work will proceed more smoothly. Avoid making waves or pushing others too hard.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Enjoy the arts with a favorite partner. Disrupted home finances can lead to unrest. Focus thoughts on art, books and music.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Find time to be alone and rest. Powerful feelings will need to be sorted out. Make positive changes where necessary.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1989

— As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The easiest way to avoid conflict with others is at the beginning. Mending over issues and trying to prove you are right have no benefits. This is a favorable time to join an open and constructive discussion.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Stick to your own viewpoint. Don't let criticism and push associates affect your day. Avoid tricky people at the workplace.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A flirtatious person can brighten your day. Work new-age methods into your present lifestyle. Develop creative ideas.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) The atmosphere is relaxed. A glamorous connection may cross your path. Trust your impulses to handle the matter.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Have a talk with yourself and dig out of the emotional mud. Use the inner voice of conscience as a guide.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A spark of insight shows you how to turn a dream into reality. Revised schedules and cancelled plans make the day feel fractured.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Over the weekend plan to drum up some

leisure activities that will relieve boredom. Take a closer look at investment potentials.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Accept an invitation with reservations. Protect assets and be security-minded. Use diplomacy in counter-

ing a suddenly disappearing person. Your labors show signs of increased reward. Stabilize life by sticking to basics. Hospitality can open new doors.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) An acquaintance with problems beyond your help. Money expected could arrive today. Hold onto resources for the future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Cooperation will avoid a volatile situation. Ridiculous work rules may be getting under your skin. Socialize with familiar pals.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A loving relationship needs your attention. It is to succeed. Explain to another that living in high style can break the bank.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A positive approach will neutralize an associate who is moody. Reunite New Year's resolutions that can improve your health.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A762 ♣932 ♦K ♠J10652
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Dbl ?
What action do you take?
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A4 ♣AKJ762 ♦73 ♠Q9
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 2 ♥ Pass
What do you bid now?
- Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AQ4 ♣AKJ762 ♦73 ♠Q9
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 2 ♥ Pass
What do you bid now?
- Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠762 ♣AQ6 ♦Q5 ♠AJ1092
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 NT Pass 2 ♥ Pass
What action do you take?
- Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ5 ♣AQ ♦AKQ1087 ♠63
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♥ Dbl Pass 2 ♥ Pass
What do you bid now?
- Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠6 ♠A105 ♣AKJ ♠AQJ762
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with three spades. What action do you take?
Look for answers on Monday.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

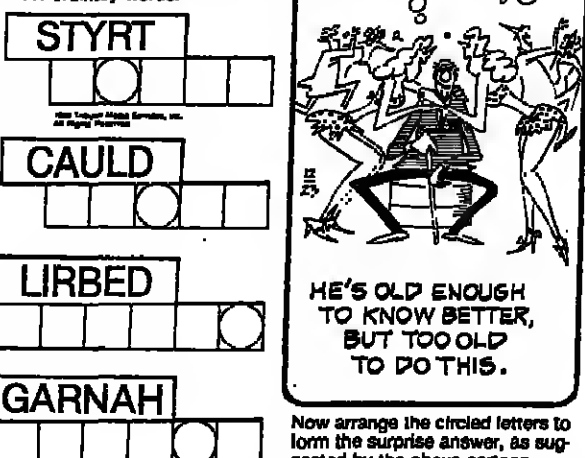
HARRIS 3-4



"He's divorcing me because I made him miss the Pee-wee Herman show this morning."

JUMBLE

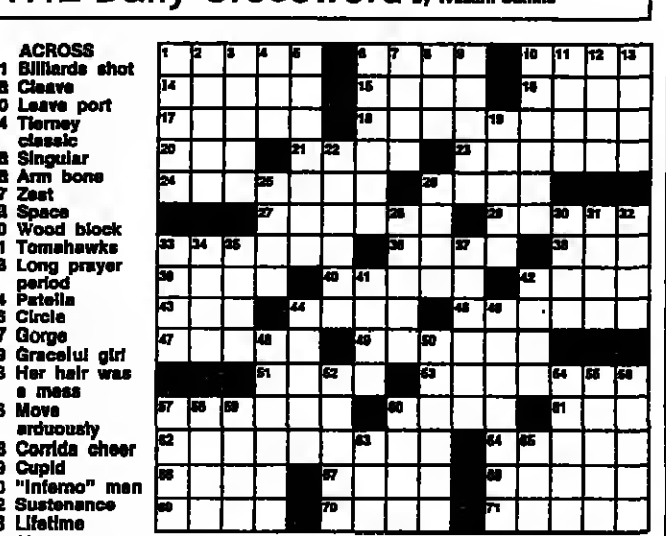
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:
(Answers tomorrow)

The Daily Crossword by William Canine

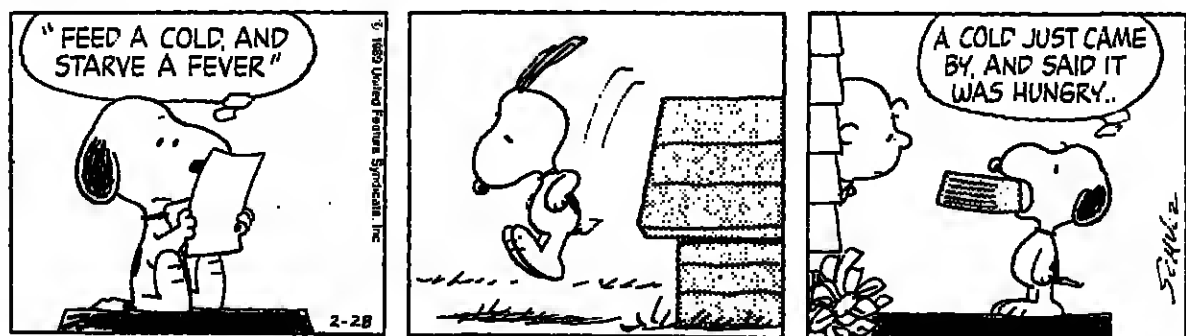


- ACROSS
- Billiards shot
 - Clare
 - Leave port
 - Therapy class
 - Singular
 - Arm bone
 - Zeet
 - Spice
 - Wood block
 - Tomahawks
 - Long prayer
 - Petella
 - Circle
 - Gorge
 - Graciel girl
 - Her hair was a mess
 - Move
 - enthusiastic
 - Corrida cheer
 - Cupid
 - "inferno" man
 - Sustenance
 - Lifetime
 - Show anger
 - Exiguous
 - Puccini
 - terrors
 - Trail
 - Rainbows
 - Quantity carried
 - Black Sea peninsula
 - Actor Johnson
 - Ms MacGraw
 - Effortlessly
 - Runnersup
 - homo
 - Bangali queen
 - Manfaat
 - Withdraw
 - gradually
 - Formerly
 - formally
 - Sapid
- DOWN
- Harsh sound
 - Brother of
 - Moose
 - "Barnaby —"
 - Gold for
 - Cortez
 - Rhythm
 - Instruments
 - Weird
 - Painter Franz
 - Globe
 - Showy tower
 - Century plant
 - Part of
 - Religious man
 - Interior
 - Kubie Khan's land
 - Old Fr. coins
 - No-see-um
 - Proprietor
 - Thing blind
 - Intrigue
 - Lamarr
 - Pemican
 - Thawfare
 - Slag tastes
 - Wasteland
 - OT book
 - Tumble
 - Tokans
 - Arthur's land
 - NJ city
 - Retal
 - Key group
 - Refugees
 - On the ball
 - Sold
 - Ruminate
 - Derby
 - Andean
 - Britains
 - Paddle
 - Eggs

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



